



POSITIVE MESSAGE FOR FIRMS

Report by Sue Austin

OSWESTRY Chamber of Commerce bosses have delivered an upbeat New Year message for the next 12 months – and say a key priority remains exploring the possibility of the town centre becoming a Business Improvement District.

The status will, through a levy on businesses, allow other channels of funding to be opened up for Oswestry town centre to improve footfall and boost trade.

Crunch talks over the proposal were postponed in December following the shock resignation of Shropshire Council Leader Keith Barrow. Chamber chairman Jools Payne said the organisation was still keen to pursue the Business Improvement District proposal and would also be working on other positive initiatives over the next 12 months to boost trade.

Mrs Payne said: "At the start of the new management team's term of office back in April, we set ourselves some strategic priorities. These included growing the membership, increasing member engagement and improving our communication out to members and the wider public.

"Our most ambitious goal was to meaningfully explore whether the appetite exists and, if it so proved, whether the time and conditions were right to look at developing Oswestry as a Business Improvement District. This remains a work in progress and a key strategic priority. Development has faltered only temporarily whilst the leadership at Shropshire Council stabilises following the sudden resignation of Keith Barrow."

Mrs Payne praised the Oswestry and Border Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign. She said: "We had fantastic support in 2015 in delivering our messages out to the public from all our local print press."

"The Chronicle's superb We Mean Business campaign, profiling many great local businesses every single week over the past eight months, stands as an exemplar of how a local paper can engage positively with its business community. Membership of Oswestry Chamber has grown steadily and surely, and continued growth remains a key priority this year. The annual membership fee for 2016 is £30, which includes a listing on the chamber's website, free monthly meetings, the opportunity to promote products, events and services to fellow members."

"The free to attend monthly networking meetings at our superb HQ, The Townhouse in Willow Street, is a brilliant way to connect with like-minded business people."

"I urge anyone in business in the town and wider district to come along to our first meeting of 2016 on February 3 from 6pm to 8pm."

● Turn to Page 9 to see the Chronicle's latest We Mean Business profile

Tickets are snapped up for star's visit

TICKETS to hear colourful comedian and writer Ruby Wax in Oswestry sold out in just two weeks, delighted organisers have revealed.

The comic star will visit Oswestry on Thursday next week to launch the town's literary festival.

She will be talking about her new book, *A Mindfulness Guide for the Frazzled*, and will be interviewed at the sell-out event by author and journalist Cathy Rentzenbrink, at The Dining Rooms, Welsh Walls.

Oswestry LitFest will take place in March and will be the seventh for the town.

Since her rise to comedy stardom the entertainer has also made her name as an author, with her memoirs hitting the best-seller lists.

The festival will run from March 17 to 20 with as yet un-named writers, storytellers and performers appearing in venues across the town.

It was originally creatively inspired by the life and work of world-renowned, Oswestry-born poet and soldier, Wilfred Owen.

The guest speaker at the second Wilfred Owen lecture on March 18, the evening of his birthday, will be announced shortly.

Tea towel includes town's landmarks



Rosie Evans and Jess Taylor from Booka Bookshop in Oswestry with the popular new tea towel. Photo: Jamie Ricketts.

Gift proves popular

OSWESTRY'S landmarks have been immortalised in cotton – and have proved a popular gift over the Christmas period.

Oswestry's attractions are included on a tea towel designed by a local graphic designer and printed in Welshpool.

The tea towel is on sale in Booka Bookshop in Church Street and owner Tim Morris said it has proved popular with locals and visitors since going on sale.

He said: "We're chuffed to bits with our tea towel. It's our design. It's something I've worked up with a local graphic designer Terri Anderson."

"She does all our design for us

and she's done a great job. We get it printed locally in Welshpool.

"We're keen to promote the local area, and it's been very popular with shoppers."

The design includes well-known claims to fame for the town, such as it being the birthplace of war poet Wilfred Owen, as well as the home of Old Oswestry Hillfort and the Cambrian railway works.

Popular spots with walkers, including Offa's Dyke, the Old Racecourse and Shelf Bank are mentioned, as are town centre locations including Cae Glas Park and one of the town's oldest buildings – the timber-framed Llwyd Mansion, which was built in 1604.

TOURISM

Heritage railway group planning to extend operation

OSWESTRY'S heritage railway is looking to start the first major extension of its running track – 50 years after the line was shut down in the Beeching cuts of the 1960s.

Cambrian Heritage Railway, which runs in Oswestry and Llyncllys, is breaking out of its short run at Oswestry Station to extend its running line to Weston Wharf, next to the Stonehouse Brewery and Weston Pools.

Rob Williams, chairman of the railway, said the expansion is likely to be completed by the start of the 2018 running season, but passengers should expect to see trains running over longer sections of the track as work is done towards the new stop.

Mr Williams said once the track reaches Weston Wharf, the plan is to work with the brewery to create a tourist attraction where people can ride the train from Oswestry to Weston, get off and enjoy a tour of the brewery, then ride back to Oswestry.

November 5, 2016, will mark 50 years since the last passenger service from Oswestry to Gobowen. Mr Williams said the anniversary year was a good time to start pushing the heritage railway forward more.

"It's particularly important that we're now expanding, 50 years on, with the first large change to the line really since we started running," he said.

AWARD

Aqueduct on list for national prize

THE Pontcysyllte Aqueduct near Oswestry has been shortlisted for the title of best heritage site in Britain.

BBC Countryfile magazine is running its annual competition to find the best of British – from beaches and nature reserves to gardens and pubs.

Presenter, John Craven, who nominated Whitby, Hadrian's Wall and Dunluc Castle, praised the merits of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

He said: "This engineering masterpiece was Britain's longest, highest aqueduct when one of my heroes, Thomas Telford, completed it in 1805."

INSIDE

TV dinner date for brave Ben



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Firm can build electricity plant despite concerns

Report by Sue Austin

A FACTORY in Chirk has been given the go-ahead to build its own electricity plant despite concerns from local people.

Kronospan, which makes medium density fibre board, says it pays £1.2 million more a year for its power supply than a competitor in Scotland, yet has suffered 54 days of reduced power in the last two years.

Mike McKenna from the company told Wrexham Council that allowing Kronospan to become self sufficient in electricity would overcome long-term problems with security of supply. He said the company paid higher network charges than other firms in the area. The company draws 65 per cent of its total demand for electricity from the grid and is also dependant on a biomass plant, gas turbines and oil/gas generators, he said.

Objections to the application for planning permission and also for retrospective permission to build air drying cyclones came from Chirk Town Council and local county borough members Councillor Ian Roberts and Councillor Terry Evans.

All three called for environmental monitoring equipment to be placed in Chirk to ensure that Kronospan met conditions on noise and pollution. Councillor Evans said he wanted monitors placed on the school and at Rhos y Waun, paid for by Kronospan. He said: "Chirk been through hell since the biomass plant was passed in 2014. We were told then that the operation permit would cover everything – that permit is as much use as a chocolate fireguard."

"I want a condition of the planning applications that we have a new permit and the independent monitoring equipment."

But planning officers said that a permit would not be seen as part of a planning permission and so the council's hands were tied. It had to stick to planning regulations.

Councillor Jackie Allen from Chirk Town Council said: "We have concerns about potential toxicity emissions and cumulative increase in noise pollution and are concerned that the environmental permit is not monitored by an independent body."

"We would like at the very least a condition that independent monitoring is carried out. We must safeguard the health and well being of the children of Chirk."

Mr McKenna said that the applications would not add to the noise levels of the factory.

Man airlifted to hospital after road crash



The scene of the early morning accident on the B4396 near Knockin. Photo: @SFRSWellington.

A MAN was airlifted to hospital with serious injuries and a woman suffered a suspected dislocated shoulder after a collision between two cars and a lorry near Oswestry on Tuesday morning.

The crash took place at about 6.15am on the B4396 at Knockin, blocking the road at rush hour. The man was described as being in a "critical but stable" condition on Tuesday.

Four fire crews from Baschurch, Oswestry and Wellington were called to the scene to cut two people free from the wreckage who were then treated by ambulance crews before being taken to hospital. The Midlands Air Ambulance from Cosford landed on the illuminated helipad at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital because it was still too dark at the time to land at the scene. An ambulance service spokesman said: "One of the drivers, a man in his twenties, was trapped in his car and had to be freed with the help of the fire service. He had numerous serious injuries. He was given advanced pain relief and was immobilised at the scene. He was then taken by land ambulance to the waiting air ambulance at Oswestry for the flight to Royal Stoke University Hospital for further treatment from its trauma team. The other driver, a woman in her thirties, had a suspected dislocated shoulder. She was given pain relief and a splint was applied. She was taken by land ambulance to Royal Shrewsbury Hospital."

PC Mark Booth said: "This would be a time when people would start to make their journeys to work and they may have witnessed the collision or saw the vehicles prior to the incident."

"I would urge anyone with any information to please call us on 101 quoting incident number 63S of 5 January."

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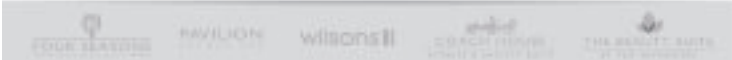
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Capacity at TNS ground remains same

THE New Saints FC has reassured fans that the capacity of its ground on the outskirts of Oswestry has not been reduced.

Ian Williams, community officer at the reigning Welsh Premier League champions, said a recommendation to limit the amount of spectators at the club's Park Hall ground to 1,320 had been dropped after discussions with officers at Shropshire Council.

The authority had carried out a review of safety management operation at the ground before making the recommendation.

The ground's current capacity is 2,000. The club has an average attendance of 374 at league matches this season, although that number rises significantly for European ties.

Mr Williams said: "The inspection looked at the amount of people in we can get through the turnstiles in an hour. However it failed to take into account the numbers that use our hospitality entrance. It also used new criteria that is relevant to the English leagues, that stewards have to have level two stewarding qualifications. That is not a criteria needed for the Welsh Premier League, however we are looking at this in terms of good practice for our stewards."

Mr Williams said the club would continue to stage Welsh Premier and European matches at its Park Hall stadium.

New Year awards recognise work

TIRELESS fundraisers and charity workers have been recognised across Shropshire and Mid Wales on the New Year's Honours List.

A string of unsung heroes across the region have been rewarded for their commitments and honoured for their services to the community.

Picking up an MBE for voluntary and public service to the community in Shrewsbury and Shropshire was Philippa Griffith, of Corwen, together with Patrick Borer, of Oswestry, for services to architecture. Councillor Roger Bright, of Knighton, Powys, picked up a British Empire Medal for voluntary service to the community in Knighton and Powys and Thomas Roberts, for voluntary service to the community in Llangollen.

Helen Francis, of Oswestry, received the same accolade for charitable services in Trefonen.

Plan provides details of town's urban extension

Report by Sue Austin

SHROPSHIRE'S new development plan has opened the way for a major new extension to Oswestry.

Oswestry Sustainable Urban Extension could see 750 homes built to the south east of the town as well as zones set out for employment land and leisure.

It could also bring closer to fruition a scheme to build Oswestry Innovation Park on the other side of the A5/A483.

The Oswestry SUE, as it has become known, is part of Shropshire Council's SAMdev document which looked at how the county should develop in the future.

It involves land sandwiched between Oswestry Leisure Centre and North Shropshire College and the bypass.

In the SAMdev document Shropshire planning officers say: "The Eastern Gateway SUE will accommodate major housing development, a business park and land for community facilities and public open space, providing a new link road between the Middleton and Shrewsbury roads."

Local developer J-Ross Developments has set out its vision for the urban extension with its own master plan for how the land could be set out.

Oswestry Town Council says it welcomes the proposed extension because of the broad proportion and disposition of land uses.

In its response to consultation over the extension it said: "The urban extension offers the opportunity to design and create a high quality urban environment."

"The community element should include allotments and open space provision should be generous and usable – full integration with the new leisure centre and the North Shropshire College campus is essential."

"Phasing of development should not be allowed to proceed in a piecemeal fashion – it is important that comprehensive infrastructure is provided at the outset and that there is a good mix of type and affordability of dwellings."

"There is particular need for accommodation suitable for the elderly."

There is no timetable for the scheme, which will have to go through the normal planning channels. But the project would provide some of the housing that Shropshire Council has said should be built in the area by 2026.

Mike waits for winter sales to warm up



Mike Coppock from Rowanthorn in Oswestry with winter hats, gloves and jumpers

LAST year, people couldn't get enough hats, scarves and gloves.

But this time around and they are lying on the shelves.

It is just an occupational hazard for Mike Coppock, who runs eclectic clothing and gift shop Rowanthorn in Oswestry.

He said he has sold no more than a handful of gloves this year, but realises that the weather may turn and selling trends will change with it.

He said: "We haven't seen much of a drop in sales for scarves as people do give them as Christmas

presents but gloves and hats sales are radically down – we've only sold perhaps a dozen all Christmas. Whereas last Christmas, although it wasn't that much colder, they were selling every day."

"We've also noticed that our coats, which are 100 per cent wool, haven't really been selling as well as usual either."

Mr Coppock said that the weather was "one of the biggest factors" in sales and people's purchasing habits at his shop in Old Chapel Court.

"It's simple really but weather, which is totally beyond anyone's

control, does dictate how your sales will be because if it's pouring with rain, you won't see many people around," he said. "With us having a milder winter people haven't wanted to buy items to keep them warm, so that's probably why our sales for hats, gloves and coats are down." Despite certain items not selling well, Mr Coppock said generally his shop's sales as a whole had been "good" – despite this year being dubbed the "toughest year ever for retail" due to market competition. He said he was generally optimistic for 2016.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Meeting will look at club's future

AN emergency meeting has been called to discuss the future of a town's social club.

Members of Welshpool Social Club are being urged to attend the meeting which is due to take place at the clubhouse on January 21 at 7.30pm.

Concerns about the club's profitability are set to be discussed.

It comes months after it was warned that the club could fold if events are not supported.

In September it was reported that the club on Brook Street faced dwindling numbers of people attending music events and live sport.

At the time the committee of Welshpool Music Festival, which supports the venue, made a plea for residents to use it or lose it.

Last year the venue celebrated its 50th birthday.

Cat needs surgery for pellet injury

A CAT needed surgery on its spine after being shot with a pellet gun.

Oscar, 17, disappeared from his home in Oswestry for several weeks, and when he returned home owner Penny Cottam, 82, noticed he had a strange lump on his back.

She said: "When he returned I took him to the vet. They operated and said they wanted to talk to me when I went to collect him – that's when they told me he had been shot."

"I was in a dreadful state while he was away. I'm very grateful to the vets at Park Issa."

Oscar returned home last month, but although he is doing well the vets were unable to remove the metal pellet.

Police issue a drugs warning

POLICE have warned they will crack down on drugs users after a stop check revealed what is thought to have been a cannabis haul.

A car was stopped by members of Welshpool Rural neighbourhood policing team at the weekend and a search revealed a suspicious bag containing what officers believe to be class C drugs. Dyfed-Powys Police said the bag located in the vehicle was believed to have belonged to one of the occupants, who was a local man.

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Transport Minister to visit area to see A5 road dangers

Report by Sue Austin

TRANSPORT Minister Patrick McLoughlin will be shown first hand the problems faced by Oswestry motorists using the A5.

Mr McLoughlin has agreed to visit the area on a fact finding mission with North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson.

Mr Paterson hopes to persuade the minister that the road north of Shrewsbury should be dualled and will also press for a bypass for Llanymynech and Pant on the nearby A483. A date for the visit has not yet been finalised but it is expected to be in the spring.

Mr Paterson said it was a chance to push for improvements to Shropshire's roads. He has been campaigning for 18 years for improvements to the A5 particularly the stretch between the Nesscliffe bypass, past Oswestry and on to the North Wales border.

"The A5 through Shropshire is part of the Trans European Highway that connects Europe, through Britain to Ireland," he said.

"The stretch north of Montford Bridge is the only single carriageway road on the entire route.

"It also contains two of the most dangerous junctions in north Shropshire at Shotatton crossroads and at Queens Head."

The proposed Llanymynech and Pant bypass is in the Government's long term road improvement programme although it is currently marked as 'on hold' in the system.

The MP visited Pant earlier in December to talk to residents about their concerns.

"This is the longest running bypass campaign in the UK," said Mr Paterson.

"In 1993 the 'preferred route' was announced and its line protected against development - we so nearly got the bypass through.

"I also want to impress on the Welsh Government that the road through Pant and Llanymynech is a horrible mess in the middle of their main strategic road. The Welsh Government has built the Four Crosses bypass, Welshpool and is now embarking on Newtown. But although 90 per cent of the benefit of the bypass would be for Wales 90 per cent of the noise, the danger and the money lands on England.

"It is only a matter of time before someone gets hurt in the villages but unfortunately it is so far at the extremity of the Midlands roads network for England it is like spending money on the end of a little finger." The MP has called on those living in the villages to monitor every single incident or accident however minor.

He said: "It is going to be a long haul and the disturbance is going to get worse and worse. It is only a matter of time until someone gets hurt."

Brave Ben seals TV date



Oswestry's Ben Shevlin enjoyed a date on Channel 4's First Dates TV show

IT was an experience to treasure - but the steak was a little tough.

Oswestry's Ben Shevlin has tasted life in the First Dates restaurant. He has become the latest to try and find love in the hit Channel 4 show, based in a real restaurant in London. The 33-year-old singleton had a serious reason to apply to take part in the television dating show.

He said it was not so much to find himself a lady but to highlight the effects of brain injuries. Ben suffered serious head injuries in a motorcycle accident in Croatia 12 years ago.

Although his recovery has been remarkable Ben says his brain injury can still cause problems. He said his date could not have

been nicer, the staff were great - but the steak left a little to be desired.

"I wrote to First Date and asked if they would be interested in using something who had a brain injury," he said.

"I had to do a telephone interview and then a filmed interview before I was chosen." Ben eventually met up with Charlotte, the woman he was paired up with by First Dates producers. Viewers can find out how they got on when the episode is aired later this year.

Ben has now launched his own Twitter feed to raise awareness of brain injuries and hopes to raise money for the charity Headway with events this year. He can be found on Twitter @Ben_Shevlin1982.

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Aspiring doctor Harry goes to Italy to follow career



Harry Phillips

Report by Pam Kingsley

AN aspiring doctor has had to relocate to Italy in order to train after being unable to get a place at any British university.

Harry Phillips from Oswestry gained three As in A Level Biology, Chemistry, and History but couldn't find a place to study medicine.

After spending a gap year gaining work experience at a local minor injuries unit, he applied to study medicine for the second time – but the second year running was rejected without being interviewed once.

The 19-year-old has spoken of his frustration at the lack of opportunities available despite a need for fresh skills within the NHS.

He said: "This is the harsh reality faced by many young and academically capable students, as the number of placements at UK universities continues its failure to meet demand, and provide the adequate number of doctors which the NHS and our GP services desperately need. The shortfall is made up by foreign recruitment."

"In September I travelled to London, where I took the IMAT, an aptitude test for a medicine and surgery course, taught in English, offered by several universities in Italy. It was a drastic option, yet one I felt forced to take. I received the results mid October, and I came around 110th out of 3500 candidates. I secured a place at the University of Pavia, a little south of Milan. A week later, the course had started, and I could finally call myself a medical student."

Mr Phillips will graduate with a masters degree in medicine and surgery after completing the six-year course, which is a year longer than the UK standard.

He said: "The course seems to be structured more traditionally, with academic teaching making up the first few years of the degree and clinical training coming later. This is beneficial to me, as it gives me time to learn basic Italian before I have to engage with patients."

"On completing my medical training, as long as I am fully registered and qualified to work within Italy which is a member of the EEA, then registering with the General Medical Council in the UK should be a simple matter, allowing me to return home to the UK and work."

"Happy as I am to be back on my career path, now enjoying the benefits that Italy has to offer, these circumstances are far from ideal, as I would give anything to be a student in the country I was born in, raised, and love."

Cockney dish is a big hit



Lisa and Pete Richardson with their traditional Cockney pie and mash which East End girl Lisa has introduced to Oswestry

THERE is one thing that East End girl Lisa Richardson misses about her Cockney upbringing – authentic pie and mash.

So when she and husband Pete decided to expand their Pizza Two Four restaurant in Bailey Street, Oswestry, there was only one thing that was a must on the menu.

The couple run Pizza Two Four in the evening – with a coffee lounge during the day and a pie and mash café at lunchtimes.

The couple have moved their business into the historic Queen Anne building tucked away in Bailey Street in the town centre.

They have the traditional food, along with the liquor that is served with it, delivered from the famous Manze's Pie Shop in Deptford.

"Sometimes we even go down and collect the pies ourselves," Lisa said.

"Pete is from the London area too and even though we have lived away from many years we still used to hanker for proper pie and mash and liquor."

"Every time we went back home we would treat ourselves so we thought, why not bring it up to Shropshire."

Lisa, who is from Hackney and, born within the sound of Bow Bells, a true Cockney, said other meat pies just weren't the same. "The liquor is wonderful," she said.

"In the past it was made from the liquor of the eels that were served in the pie shop but it is not made that way any more. However the recipe is secret, the only thing I know that is in it is parsley."

Solar farm is approved despite fears

A 20,000-panel solar farm will be built in the Shropshire countryside despite objections from residents.

The controversial plans, which had been halved in size since being refused earlier last year, were approved by Shropshire Council's north planning committee.

Councillor David Lloyd, member for Gobowen, Selattyn & Weston Rhyn, said he was against the proposal on the edge of Gobowen.

He said: "It's open countryside that is highly valued for recreation by local people. Who would want to walk, ride or cycle around a power station? I wouldn't want that."

"Reducing the scale doesn't reduce the feeling of local people about planting 20,000 glass panels in a field. It is open countryside and should be used for food production."

Selattyn & Gobowen Parish Council had also objected to the plans, and resident Brian Case also spoke during the meeting.

He said: "This will blot our small community for at least 25 years and be an eyesore for many years."

Bristol-based Elgin Energy Esco Ltd had originally wanted to build a 78-acre, 40,000 panel solar farm, which would have been one of the largest in Shropshire, at Rhoysgadfa.

The plans were scaled back and will now see the solar farm built on 33 acres of land which could power 1,500 homes.

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

Dyfed Powys Police Commissioner Christopher Salmon would be well advised to register the news that Oswestry's CCTV system has been recognised as one of the best in Britain.

A bank of high-tech cameras and dedicated volunteers has seen Oswestry's CCTV system hailed as one of the most effective in the country. The system has been funded by Oswestry Town Council and West Mercia Police and since launch 15 years ago more than 10,000 recorded incidents have resulted in more than 2,500 arrests. Its success has been recognised by the National Association of Local Councils, which named it the best special project in the country. West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner, Bill Longmore, recognises the importance of CCTV systems and splashed the cash from his own fund to help the recent Oswestry system digital overhaul but it's a very different story over the border. Christopher Salmon refuses to acknowledge the value of the system operated by Welshpool Town Council, even though his officers on the ground regularly use footage. The council receives not a penny from the police authority for providing the service despite many prosecutions being based on CCTV images. Welshpool Town Council considers the service to be a high priority and has recently invested in improvements, despite Mr Salmon's refusal to stump up any cash support. Mr Salmon says a survey in 2014 revealed that CCTV active monitoring doesn't work in Dyfed-Powys and said he wouldn't be wasting the public's money on it. Open your eyes Mr Salmon. Why do other commissioners recognise the invaluable service provided by CCTV systems – they obviously read a different survey to you.

Reading that Oswestry's Cambrian Heritage Railway will re-open the line as far as Weston Wharf by the start of 2018 was a great way to start the year. The bunch of amazing enthusiasts, who are determined to restore the line to its former glories, announced the plan which will involve linking to Stonehouse Brewery at Weston for organised tours. It's an ambitious programme that should see trains reach as far as Gasworks Bridge on Salop Road by the start of 2017 and although progress is likely to be slow it's a real step in the right direction in the bid to reach Llyncllys to the south and then Gobowen to the north.

Surely cash has to be found to help the heritage railway group achieve its goals. The benefits of restoring links to Gobowen would be difficult to calculate in hard cash terms but would attract many thousands of visitors to the area.



Luke Wildgoose from Gobowen and Jacob McGuire from Oswestry enjoy activities at The Centre



Max Hughes and Imanol Arzalluz enjoy playing Magic the Gathering gaming cards at The Centre



Ivory Hickman and James Tomley try out fencing at The Centre in Oswestry

The Centre is making sure the kids are alright

How youth services are delivered in Oswestry has changed. SUE AUSTIN finds out more

IT costs just a quarter of what it used to – but the amount of activities on offer for young people in Oswestry has risen by 60 per cent, according to council bosses.

When Shropshire Council axed its youth service positive activities team, there were fears that the county would lose its provision for young people.

But those now working to ensure teenagers have something to do in Oswestry say the opposite has happened.

People who go along to The Centre on Oak Street on weekday evenings or Saturdays can try their hand at a huge range of activities from strategic battle games to fencing or weightlifting, from board games to drama, street dance and even yoga.

Young people can if they prefer chill out at the centre socialising and making use of equipment including pool tables, computers and an impressive range of music instruments and DJ and recording equipment.

Shropshire Council and the area's local joint committee have commissioned services for young people after an in depth survey of secondary school and college students in the town.

Councillor Vince Hunt, who said year six primary children were also included in the survey, said it was important that young people were asked what they would like to see on offer.

He said: "Individuals and organisations have stepped up to offer the activities that young people want. We had become



Greg Hickman and Bridie Lloyd offer activities for youngsters in Oswestry

a society that expected the state to provide everything for us, the community had forgotten how to do anything.

"This is now being addressed in Oswestry. We can be proud of what is provided here for young people and more importantly we can be proud of the young people themselves."

Jay Moore from Fusion Arts is behind the organisation that successfully bid to ensure The Centre could continue to be a central hub for youth provision.

"It is absolutely vital that young people have somewhere they can go, feel safe, socialise and have the chance to experience a range of activities," he said.

He also runs the Fusion Gaming Club on Thursday evening where people from the age of 10-18 can enjoy everything from computer gaming machines to air hockey.

to 19 in Oswestry live in the most deprived areas of the town, while 220 children under the age of 17 were referred to social care in the space of a year.

The authority is looking for local organisations or individuals interested in providing youth provision for 10-19 year olds – or up to age 24 years old for those with learning difficulties.

It says it wants to target the Oswestry east area. The latest figures available – from the 2011 Census – indicated there were 3,884 young people living in Oswestry, 2,011 of them aged between 10 and 19 years old.

Of the older age group, just over 41 per cent lived in the most deprived areas of Oswestry, with Gatacre, Cambrian and Castle wards in the north, the centre and east among the top 30 per cent of deprived areas in England.

There were 220 children under 17 referred to social care in one year, and 70 10 to 17 year olds were recorded offenders.

Figures showed that nine per cent of the 10 to 19 age group had poor school attendance and more than 20 per cent of the 10 and 11 year olds were classed as obese.

Steve White, community officer for Shropshire Council, said: "We are looking for innovative ways of reaching and engaging young people in deprived and hard to reach areas of the town with limited facilities to access."

"We are looking for providers to take account of the research we have completed with young people but also expect providers to provide their own evidence of need and demand for their project or activity."

"Our aim is to ensure that as many young people as possible, can access a wide range of activities after school, at weekends and in school holidays."

Funding is available for projects in the area, but only for those starting before March. For more information visit www.safeguardingshropshireschildren.org.uk/scb/

WORKING FOR YOU



I have begun the new Parliamentary year by focusing on the gap between Government spending in urban and rural areas. As a member of the Rural Fair Share group, I attend regular meetings and met colleagues this week to discuss the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement. The Rural Services Delivery Grant, which provides additional resources to councils in rural areas to meet the additional costs associated with sparse populations, will increase from £15.5 million in 2015/16 to £65 million in 2019/20.

This follows years of cross-party campaigning from members of the campaign to close the funding gap, which sees urban areas receive on average 45 per cent more funding per resident than rural areas.

The increase in the Rural Services Delivery Grant is good news. It's the most significant increase we've seen yet, and I'm grateful to the Secretary of State for listening to the concerns of rural MPs from all sides of the House.

I am pleased that he recognises the unfairness of the current system, which sees poorer, older, and more heavily taxed rural residents receive fewer local government services. It is however, disappointing that the Government hasn't committed to the full £130 million which our campaign has asked for, and that next year's increase will only see the grant increased to £20 million. There's a long way to go yet, and we will be campaigning to improve the deal further before the vote in the House of Commons in February. It is a scandal that Westminster residents get £715 of Government funding per head whilst Shropshire residents receive only £325. Yet Westminster is due to see a reduction of 13.9 per cent against a reduction of 24 per cent in Shropshire.

Like all areas of the public sector, local government has to make savings in order to deal with the horrendous deficit inherited from the previous Labour administration who left us borrowing £300,000 per minute. Every bit of the public sector needs to do their bit to pay off the budget deficit, including local government which accounts for a quarter of all public spending. I would encourage my constituents to contribute to Shropshire Council's 'Big Conversation' consultation on the overall future of council services. The deadline for responses is January 31.

I congratulate Cllr Malcolm Pate who was confirmed as the new Leader of Shropshire Council just before Christmas, with Cllr Steve Charnley as his deputy. I look forward to working with them closely in the months and years ahead.

Owen Paterson
North Shropshire MP

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IF MY GIRLFRIEND MOVED IN WITH ME, COULD SHE MAKE ANY CLAIM ON MY HOUSE?

Q: My girlfriend came to stay over Christmas and we got on so well that I am tempted to ask her to move in with me. We haven't however known each other long and I am worried what would happen if the relationship didn't work out long term. Could she make a claim on my house?

A: You can have a solicitor draw up a co-habitation agreement to protect your interests once you have decided how you want things to be.

If you wish to remain the sole owner of the property and continue to pay the bills and mortgage your girlfriend would normally have no right to remain there if you asked her to leave. However, as there ways other than financial contribution that can constitute a 'beneficial interest' you should speak to a Solicitor specialising in family law and cohabitation before doing anything.

If in the future you wanted your girlfriend to have a share in the property you could specify what percentage that would be. Or you may want to own the house with her as 'joint tenants', whereby if one of you dies the other automatically inherits the house. Alternatively you could own the house as tenants in common, where each of you owns a specified share of the house, something you may prefer if you have contributed the greater share. Whatever you decide, you should ensure that your co-habitation agreement clearly reflects that.

You may also need to draw up a Deed of Trust setting out your rights to the property and what should happen if you split up. Similarly you should draw up a Will clearly stating what you want to happen when either of you dies.

This question has been answered by Linda Hill, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

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Western powers never seem to learn We need to use logic to sort out this threat to UK

THE long crisis in Syria has claimed the lives of more than 250,000 people and displaced millions of others.

The United States and its regional allies, including Turkey and Saudi Arabia, have been backing militants fighting against the Syrian government and people.

Why is the UK supporting terrorists? Because no matter what name you give armed groups, that's what they are, in their fight against a government that was elected by its people regardless of the assumption it was rigged.

The rules for governance were changed under Assad on May 7, 2012. Under the

new constitution, parties cannot be founded on a religious, tribal, regional, denominational, or profession-related basis or be a branch of or affiliated to a non-Syrian party or political organisation. This would exclude the outlawed Muslim Brotherhood or Kurdish parties seeking regional autonomy. Also, at least half of the members of the assembly should be workers and farmers, as defined by law.

I will say again, 250,000 people, and still counting, are dead because Western powers wanted a regime change as it would seem that Assad was favouring trade with Russia.

We now see a situation reminiscent of first Korea where America and United Nations supports one side and China and Russia the other and then Vietnam which, for America, was part of a wider containment policy with the stated aim of stopping the spread of communism.

In both wars the West was ultimately defeated.

Political leaders and their cohorts never seem to learn from history and ordinary people are the ones that pay the price for their arrogance and greed.

MICHAEL WILKINSON
Ketley

EVIDENTLY Britain's fleet of nuclear submarines is "fragile" and will need replacing.

Fragile is not a word I am happy with when it appears in the same sentence as submarine and nuclear. Especially when uttered by Admiral Lord West of Spithead who would know about this sort of thing as an ex-head of the Royal Navy. Now we come to the really worrying bit. The replacement programme might be modelled on a variety of teams that oversaw the Olympics, or Crossrail, or HS2. Why not go the whole way and call in Lord Alan Sugar and his band of business bots from The Apprentice? There is a lot to worry about but my concerns lie with the people in control and the systems that control these fearsome weapons. Looking at some MPs debating Syria on TV they seemed unsure as to who we would attack; Assad or Isis. Let's face facts. We no longer play with big boys. We are not important enough and we are no longer big enough to enter this game. Am I the only person who thinks Assad to be the best option for Syria and that the only real statesmen right now is Putin?

It is because they bring common sense to the table. All we need is a few politicians found to have a speck of brain lodged in their heads. It's not the cost, or the guns or the missiles that threaten us. It's the fact that logic and common sense seem to reside elsewhere and that's what progresses solutions.

ROBIN LLOYD
Ellesmere

Cameron has tough EU task

PEOPLE who criticise the Prime Minister's European Union negotiation demands for being unambitious are wide of the mark.

You only need to look at the response from the Commission – "highly problematic" – to realise he has asked for plenty of things they will only concede through gritted teeth.

In fact Mr Cameron has produced a carefully calibrated list of demands.

They are achievable but some will be extremely challenging. His points on migration and greater powers for national parliaments will be particularly hard to swallow for those in Brussels who like things just as they are.

Our Prime Minister has set out a recipe for greater accountability, flexibility and competitiveness – less red tape, remoteness and self-satisfaction.

If he can deliver it we will be doing the rest of Europe as big a favour as he does Britain.

He has set out something worth fighting for. Those who claim he is merely tinkering are the ones who would not want to stay in the European Union whatever he delivered.

ANTHEA MCINTYRE
Conservative MEP
for the West Midlands

Roads hit by flooding after stream overflowed



There were problems for motorists and pedestrians as thousands of gallons of rain water flooded down Brook Street in Oswestry in January 1984. Several roads in the Welsh Walls area were flooded by a torrent of water. The source of the problem was a stream at the top of Brynhafof Lane which was blocked by fallen leaves and overflowed its banks into the street.

Put your hand in the hand of Jesus and walk together

NO one believed that man could fly, everyone said the Wright brothers were nuts, but seeing is believing.

The Wrights were right.

Our great grandfathers would not believe that an Airbus weighing hundreds of tonnes with 400 passengers on board could get off the ground until they saw it actually fly. Nor would they believe it if we told them it would be possible to see and talk to friends in Australia.

You may believe a delivery of something exciting is on the way. If a man comes to your door with a parcel you'll never know what's in it until you answer the door. Well, Jesus says: "Look, I stand at your door and knock. If you hear me calling and open the door I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends."

The key is in your hands, He won't force his way into your life. He's the one with the bread of life and the living water. Put your hand in His and go for a walk in the sunshine.

RON JONES
St Martins

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Pylons spark health concerns

I REMEMBER reading when they were first proposed that "pylons should not be erected within a three mile radius of a dwelling place".

The meaning was very clear, cancer was one of the reasons given.

I recently read that cancer was no longer the main health concern, I think it was MS.

Whichever illness, the fact there's health concerns with pylons should be at the forefront of any objection.

LESLEY WILLIAMS
Cornwall

Answer to A&E site question is so simple to me

THE Future Fit committee considering where to site Shropshire's proposed one and only A&E unit seems to us to be slow, expensive and incompetent when the solution they seek is so simple – which of the two sites in question would benefit the greatest number of Shropshire people?

The obvious choice is Shrewsbury, listed in any good atlas to be 'close to the centre of the county'. Telford was cobbled together in November 1968 from Wellington, Madeley, Hadley, Oakengates, Dawley, Ironbridge and Donnington and made a separate unitary authority in 1998. Its self importance has been thrown in our faces ever since and there seems to be little consideration for the rest of the county over this issue. Telford's 166,000 population is quite entitled to want the A&E services on their doorstep. But the county's 473,900 population, the bulk of who will be seriously disadvantaged by increased travel on poor Shropshire roads should the Telford site be chosen, ought to be listened to.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Damp weather
fear for farmers

MILD and wet weather could cause problems with the lambing season, with fears that up to 20 per cent of newborns could die because of infection.

After heavy rainfall and warmer temperatures, the atmosphere has become full of moisture, which makes ewes and lambs more prone to infections, especially in the first few days.

Oswestry farmer Malcolm Roberts has 200 ewes that are due to start lambing.

He said: "It will be a concern. We very much depend on the elements. The wrong elements create a lot of work and anxiety."

"We could lose 20 per cent of them if an infection occurs and is not handled."

Mr Roberts, an NFU representative of Maesbury village, said issues can arise as the ewes cannot find dry land to feed from.

Their bedding can become contaminated, and they can get infections such as salmonella and e.coli.

Free car parking
'boosted trade'

A FREE parking initiative over Christmas proved a boost to traders in Oswestry, business leaders have said.

Oswestry Town Council offered free parking in its Central, Horsemarket and Smithfield car parks every day from 2pm between December 14 and Christmas Eve. The town's Chamber of Commerce said that the move had encouraged more people to go into the town centre to do their shopping and said it would be good to see the initiative repeated in 2016.

Chamber chairman Jools Payne said: "It has kept people shopping in Oswestry and so we would like to see it repeated next year."

Mikey has his sights set
on golden glory in Rio

Report by Sue Austin

WHEN Mikey Hall broke his neck and back on an Army assault course 15 years ago he thought his life had come to an end.

At the age of just 25 the career he loved had come to an end and he faced the prospect of using a wheelchair for the rest of his life.

But today Mikey is a professional athlete, an Invictus Games gold medalist, who is now training hard to book his place in the GB team for the Rio Paralympics.

The 40-year old who has just returned to live in his home county, Shropshire, said: "I was in a really dark place after the accident."

"I thought my life was at an end. "But sport and Help for Heroes have given me a new life."

The former Lance Corporal with the Queens Dragoon Guards took up archery nine years ago but then moved into Paralympic triathlons.

However, Mikey was talent spotted and selected to visit the Sochi winter games.

Last year he joined Archery GB, won gold at a championship in Holland and is ranked sixth in the world.

Now Mikey is training full time at the Lilleshall Sports Centre, sponsored by Help the Heroes, with the aim of joining Team GB in Rio.

He said: "Because I am based in Lilleshall, I made the decision to come back and live in St Martins, near Oswestry. I left home when I was 18 and it is good to be back in Shropshire."

He lives back home with parents Tony and Inge, although would eventually like to be independent again.



Mikey Hall and his mother Inge share a joke at their home in St Martins near Oswestry

Mentally ill
man stole
from stores

A MAN with mental health issues stole perfume, groceries and clothing when he went off his medication.

Nicholas Jones, 29, of Maple Avenue, Oswestry, admitted stealing groceries worth £63 from Morrisons in Oswestry on November 24, when he appeared at Shrewsbury Magistrates Court. Jones, who suffers from bi-polar disorder, also admitted stealing clothing to the value of £100 from The Factory Shop and £45 worth of perfume from the town's Poundland store on November 23.

Abbie Hall, prosecuting, said the defendant was seen on CCTV entering The Factory Shop with another male who handed him T-shirts around the scanner. Both men then left the store. Later that afternoon Jones was seen in Poundland and took a number of bottles of perfume. She added that the following day Jones entered Morrisons and filled a basket with groceries, leaving without attempting to pay. Sally Stokes, for Jones, said: "Since the offence his medication has levelled out and he has been stable." Jones was given a 12-month conditional discharge and told to pay £135 costs, £15 victim surcharge and compensation to the stores.

Ex-MP is facing
cosmetic work

FORMER Montgomeryshire MP Lembit Opik will have cosmetic surgery on his face.

Mr Opik, who was the region's Member of Parliament from 1997 to 2010, has joked he hoped the work will make him look like George Clooney.

The 50-year-old suffered facial injuries in 1998 when he fell 80ft in a paragliding accident. After four years on the NHS waiting list, he will have his op on January 26.

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Man struck friend over lift argument

A ROW over a lift to college led to one man punching his friend and leaving him with a cut to his head.

Ryan Andrews, 21, of Cwrt Croesawdy, Newtown, has been ordered to complete a 12-month community order, including a community service order, after admitting assault occasioning actual bodily harm.

Andrews was sentenced for the offence, which took place on February 24 last year, when he appeared at Shrewsbury Crown Court on Monday.

Adam Western, prosecuting, told the court that Andrews had assaulted his friend, David Owen, at college in Oswestry.

Mr Western told the court that Mr Owen had been giving Andrews a lift to college for the previous few weeks but had decided to stop taking him after he had "behaved poorly" the day before.

Mr Western said that when Andrews saw Mr Owen he lunged at him and punched the left side of his head causing a 12cm cut which required stitches. Peter Cooper, mitigating, said: "This man was his friend and it is a relief to him that after he behaved so stupidly, he and Mr Owen are friends again."

Ramblers take on moderate walk

WELSHPOOL Ramblers will do a moderate 7.5-mile circular walk from Meifod on Sunday.

The route, along a variety of field paths, forest tracks and quiet lanes, will include Allt Fawr, Coed Gelli, Cefn Goleu and Cae Cwm. Some of the tracks follow the edge of the wooded areas with the potential for good winter views. Further information can be obtained on (01691) 831963.

Newgate Clocks always has time for innovation

WE MEAN BUSINESS

THE Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign celebrates Oswestry's businesses. This week we celebrate Newgate Clocks.

It began in a one-bedroom flat in Church Street, Oswestry.

Today Newgate clocks are sold in Harrods, Libertys, and Selfridges, as well as many department stores and thousands of independent homeware boutiques across the UK. Newgate has become one of the leading British clock brands with the company recently setting up sales divisions in the US as well as distributing all over Europe and further afield. Founding directors Jim and Chloe Read have always been determined to keep their growing business local. The company now employs more than 40 people at their headquarters on Glover's Meadow on the town's industrial estate.

"We have been creating ways to measure the time for the last 25 years, with our distinctive statement clocks fusing vintage and retro inspiration into something altogether more contemporary," Mr Read said.

The firm has launched its first collection of 49 design-led wristwatches. Designed in its Oswestry studios, many of the watches are miniature versions of some of Newgate's best known clocks, shrunk down in scale to allow them to be strapped to wrists, and lending the company a whole new way to help their customers keep track of the minutes and hours.



Jim Read, a founding director of Newgate Clocks which now employs more than 40 people

NEWS IN BRIEF

Santa group gives boost to charity

A GROUP of people who got together to retain a popular Christmas lights display raised almost £200 for charity.

The Bring Back Waving Santa group was set up on Facebook by Lee Barnfield after the illumination was retired from Oswestry's lights display.

And after achieving its goal of getting a new Santa back in the display, Mr Barnfield asked the group's 1,400 members to donate money to the Rotary Club of Oswestry's Tree of Light.

He said: "A few people had suggested putting money in to fund the return of Waving Santa but when that wasn't required I thought why not give money to charity."

"The Tree of Light supports local charities and this is £200 that we weren't expecting to raise at the start of the campaign."

The Rotary Club's Tree of Light raises hundreds of pounds for various charities. Donations can be made in Sainsbury's or at mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/wavingsanta until Friday next week.

Help is at hand to ease the stress

IF your New Year's resolution is to have a stress-free 2016, then help is at hand at Oswestry Library's next Learning at Lunchtime session on Thursday next week.

Julie Howe will be providing an introduction to mindfulness, a helpful technique for wellbeing which pinpoints alternative ways to relate to thoughts and emotions through learning to pay attention to the workings of the mind. The event is £2.50 per person and takes place from 10.30am to 11.30am. Spaces are limited. Contact the library on oswestry.library@shropshire.gov.uk or (01691) 677388 to reserve your place.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Cost of stalls to remain the same

MARKET traders in Welshpool will not face any increases in the costs of their stalls, it has been announced.

Welshpool Town Council has decided to keep costs at their current levels for the next financial year.

Traders currently pay £12 for an indoor stall and £1 per square foot for an outdoor stall, both in Broad Street. But the costs will rise by between 2.5 per cent and three per cent from April 1, 2017, to help cover the costs of a new heating system.

The council services committee, which met recently, had recommended that the town council met with market traders to discuss raising the stall rents by 2.5 to five per cent following the installation of the heating system.

New Year party tickets available

OLDER residents in Welshpool are being reminded to get their tickets for an annual senior citizens new year party.

The party will be held at Welshpool Town Hall on January 26.

This will be the seventh annual party and in previous years comedians Stu Francis, Jimmy Cricket, Berni Flint; presenter Paul Hayes from Cash in the Attic; soap star Vince Earl from Brookside, recording star Tammy Jones, and boxer John H Stracey have been special guests providing entertainment. Tickets are available from Welshpool Jewellers or Flaunt It card shop. Organiser Alan Crowe is also looking for anyone interested in supporting the event. Call him on 07782 166342.

Councillor given role in national dementia team

Report by Pam Kingsley

A POWYS County Councillor has been appointed as Wales's only representative on a national rural dementia taskforce.

Councillor Dawn Bailey, who represents Trewern, joined the rural taskforce set up by the Prime Minister David Cameron as part of a pledge to tackle the escalating dementia crisis.

The taskforce was set up to investigate how people living with dementia, their carers and their families could be better supported within their own communities. It includes representatives from the House of Commons, House of Lords, NHS, national organisations, business and charity leaders among its members.

Cllr Bailey said: "As dementia champion for Powys County Council, I am obviously aware of some of the main issues for those living with dementia in a rural community. To be a member of such a prestigious committee reporting to the Prime Minister is quite an honour, I am the only member of the committee from Wales. I look forward to helping shape the way the future needs of people affected by dementia living in rural communities is addressed."

"The taskforce intends setting up its own website and strengthen its publicity links with the national press, radio and TV in order to promote its planned programme of work. I look forward to having the opportunity to showcase at a UK level the excellent good work and practice that is currently taking place across Powys."

Event provided some festive cheer



There was plenty of festive cheer at the Bron y Buckley working men's club

THERE was no need to go without some festive cheer in Welshpool after a young woman decided to try to put a smile on the faces of any one not looking forward to Christmas.

Chantelle Molyneux, 25, organised a lunch at the Bron y Buckley working men's club in Welshpool. People could call into the club for soup and sandwiches and tea and biscuits, but above all for some company. During the day, on December 23, everyone joined in with games and activities. Those who took part included people who wanted some company during Christmas week, older people and the homeless.

Miss Molyneux said she moved to Welshpool from Warrington, where she had experience at working in night shelters. "When I arrived in Welshpool there didn't seem to be anything provided for people who simply felt alone over Christmas," she said. "I want to say a thank you to everyone to helped out or who contributed to the day and thanks to the working men's club for allowing us to use the premises."

Brewery has new plans to develop site

A BREWERY has unveiled its plans to expand into a destination venue for real ale fans after opening a visitor centre and starting tours of its facilities.

Monty's Brewery, in Pool Road, Montgomery, opened The Cottage visitor centre where guests can buy a range of beer, gifts and merchandise.

The Cottage marks the first phase of a plan to create a main attraction, with brewing experience packages and tours on offer. Russ Honeyman, Monty's sales director, said: "It's the ideal spot to enjoy a pint of your favourite Monty's tipple, learn about the brewery and how we brew. With fantastic views out over the Welsh hills it's a perfect spot. There are great walks around and we are on the doorstep of Offa's Dyke. There is a video about the brewing process and the ingredients we use and our friendly staff are always on hand to answer any questions on Monty's brewery."

Following the brewery's participation in a Welsh Government Trade Development visit to Finland and Sweden at the end of September, the brewery began hosting its own visitor tours.

Issues over rail line are discussed

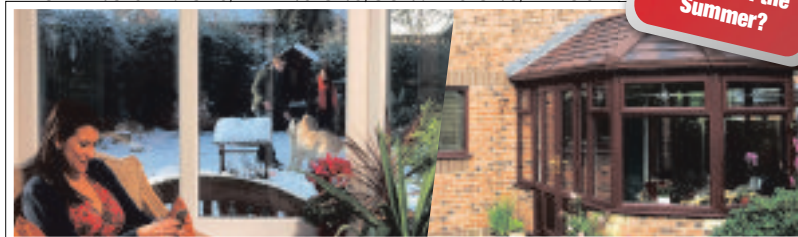
CALLS have been made for safety improvements to protect farmers and livestock on the Cambrian rail line.

Russell George, Assembly Member for Montgomeryshire, met Network Rail following safety concerns from farmers and landowners who move their livestock across the railway.

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Fire service plans

PEOPLE in need of medical attention could be tended to by the fire service under a radical shake-up of services in Mid Wales.

Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and the Wales Ambulance Service have teamed up to work on a pilot project which they say could save lives.

It would see firefighters attending medical emergencies if they are closer than the ambulance service.

Greg Lloyd, head of clinical operations at the Welsh Ambulance Service, said: "Every second counts in an emergency.

"If our fire service colleagues can get to a scene before one of our ambulances they can begin to deliver life-saving treatment – that's only going to improve that patient's chance of surviving.

"Fire Medical Response (FMR) crews

are being trained to administer life-saving treatment, including CPR and the use of a defibrillator.

"We must stress that they will not replace the normal response of a paramedic in a rapid response car or an emergency ambulance, but will form part of an integrated approach to providing immediate, life-saving treatment to patients in our communities.

"FMR personnel play an important role alongside frontline ambulance staff in making sure patients get appropriate help quickly and efficiently, and they're very much part of the Welsh Ambulance Service family."

Teams will be mobilised via fire control, as directed by the Welsh Ambulance Service Trust.

Orient honour for smokery



Richard Simpson with Debbie Levisseur, dairy sales and marketing at Bodnant

A SMOKERY has had a successful year after smoking more than a tonne and a half of cheese for a company that supplies the Orient Express.

Chirk Smokery was originally set up to smoke fish from the neighbouring trout farm but diversified, and has now been working with Bodnant Welsh Food Centre on its award-winning Abernwg cheese.

Smokery owner Richard Simpson said: "Abernwg cheese has been a big success for us – both in terms of the part we play in producing it and also on the shelves of our own farm shop.

"We like to offer our customers as diverse a range of food as possible so it was a must to sell the Abernwg – it's become a very popular line for us. It's being snapped up by local people and our visitors from outside the area, many of whom are food connoisseurs."

The smokery uses oak and beech wood chips to cold-smoke wheels of the cheese, which are handmade and matured at Bodnant in the Conwy Valley.

The cheeses are then returned to Bodnant, where they are packaged and sent to outlets around the UK.

Banks plea fails

PLEAS to keep under-threat banks in two towns open have been rejected.

HSBC officials have refused to reverse a decision to close its branches in Llanfyllin and Llanfair Caereinion.

It comes despite a final plea made by politicians and councillors who fear the closures will have a devastating effect on the towns and surrounding villages.

Talks were held in Llanfyllin between HSBC managers, AM Russell George, MP Glyn Davies, Llanfyllin county councillor Peter Lewis and town mayor Ann Williams to discuss ways to keep some form of bank service in the town.

But Mr George said the discussions had not gone as well as they had hoped.

HSBC plans to close the two branches

on February 12. The bank will also shut its branches in Whitchurch, Market Drayton and Harlescott in Shrewsbury in January.

It comes after Natwest shut its branch in Ellesmere recently despite huge public opposition. Mr George said: "During the meeting with HSBC's senior management, I presented results from my recent residents' survey which showed overwhelming support for the retention of both branches in Llanfyllin and Llanfair Caereinion.

"In spite of our calls for them to reconsider, they were not willing to reverse their decision and keep these branches open. However, they informed us that customers will be able to access their accounts at the local Post Office in both Llanfyllin and Llanfair Caereinion."

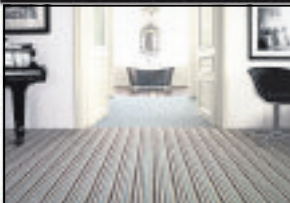
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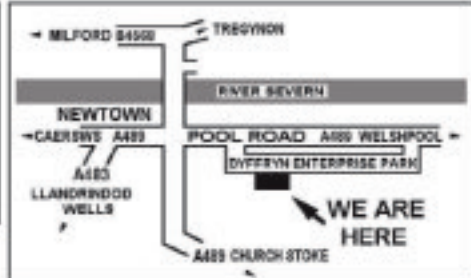
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Bench installed at hospital in memory of patient Terri

A WIFE, mother and grandmother who died at the age of 53 has been remembered with the placing of a memorial bench at a hospital.

Theresa Margaret Ellis – known as Terri – had been a long term patient at the Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital, travelling from her home in Middle-town, near Welshpool, to receive regular arthroscopy treatment for arthritis of her hip and knees.

The mother-of-four, who also had four grandchildren, died in June at the Royal

Report by Pam Kingsley

Stoke University Hospital. Her family made a donation to the hospital in Stoke, but also wanted to support the orthopaedic hospital due to Terri's long affection for the place. They have handed over the bench and cheques totalling £150, which will go to the hospital's own charity to support patients.

"We know how much she loved the hospital," said Rachael, 30, a nurse and the eldest of Terri's four children. "We wanted to say thank you for everything the orthopaedic did for her over the years. We felt a bench was a good way for her memory to

live on there. She really should have had a hip or knee replacement operation because her arthritis was horrendous, but she wanted to wait until she was older, and the support she had from everyone at the hospital was tremendous." Rachael was joined at the hospital for the presentation of the bench by her sisters Becky Holmes, 29, and Hannah Swift, 21, as well as father Kevin, who turned 60 earlier this year, and Becky's husband Wayne. Brother Matty Swift, 23, was unable to attend. Becky's children Emily, 12, and Kieran, nine, also came to pay tribute along with Rachael's son Ethan, 11. Acting director of nursing Julie Roberts thanked the family.



Theresa Ellis's family with Julie Roberts

Drink-driving arrests double over Christmas

THE number of over-the-limit drivers caught by police over Christmas has more than doubled compared to last year.

Almost 290 motorists were arrested during West Mercia Police's Christmas drink-driving campaign – compared to 128 last year.

One driver facing court was five times the drink-drive limit.

This year's figures, which include those arrested up until December 27, include people arrested for drug driving for the first time, after new laws came into force in March.

Superintendent Daryn Elton of West Mercia Police, said the figures were "unacceptable".

He said: "Worryingly, and despite many warnings over the years about the dangers of drink and drug driving, there are still far too many reckless drivers ignoring the devastating consequences. Alcohol and drugs both affect your ability to judge speed and distances accurately and slow down your reaction time. We're urging people to think hard about the consequences that a collision could lead to."

The campaign, which was conducted across West Mercia and Warwickshire, saw 289 and 105 people arrested respectively. Of that figure a total of 115 were arrested for drug driving.

Superintendent Elton said that the force would continue to target drink and drug drivers with extra patrols.

He said: "Cracking down on those who take drugs or drink and then drive is a year round commitment for both forces.

"However, we are very aware the festive season can present opportunities where people are tempted to drive after taking drugs or drinking."

Stately home has a £1.5m price tag

A 200-year-old stately home in Mid Wales has been put up for sale with a £1,500,000 price tag.

The Grade II listed Llanerchydol Hall in Welshpool was originally the seat of David Pugh – a wealthy tea trader who built the present house in 1776 on the site of an original house which is thought to have been destroyed by fire.

It remained in the Pugh family for 136 years, during which time it underwent considerable alterations and adaptations, the most notable being in 1820 when the house was rebuilt introducing the romantic turrets and castlements.

Later in 1848 renowned architect Thomas Penson was consulted on the drawing room.

The family also hired

John Repton to landscape the surrounding parkland and gardens, including a Japanese water garden and parterre.

James MacKenzie, selling agent for Savills, said: "It was noted that during the Victorian era, the three great houses in the area, Powis Castle, Vaneor Park and Llanerchydol vied with each other for the most varied and gorgeous collection of flora and garden produce."

Towards the end of the Pugh family ownership parts of the estate, which had reached 2,000 acres, had to be sold off to maintain the house and the family's lifestyle.

With the onset of the First World War the family made the decision to sell the house in 1912.

Big Local group meets

A GROUP which covers three villages in north Shropshire will meet in the next few weeks.

The Three Parishes Big Local, which covers the villages of Weston Rhyn, Gobowen and St Martins, near Oswestry, will hold an afternoon of tea, cakes and brainstorming on January 23.

The event, which will be held from 2pm to 4pm at St Martins School, will give information on current projects and grants.

It will also give people the chance to give ideas on how to use a £1 million funding pot over the next few years.

The money has been provided by the Big Lottery Fund to support community projects. Earlier this year a Wheels 2 Work scheme was set up to loan out scooters and electric and push bikes to those who need transport to get a job.

ADVERTISEMENT

New 12 Week Treatment LOSE WEIGHT + FEEL BETTER

"MIRUJI HAS HELPED ME LOSE 3 STONE AND I FEEL BETTER IN EVERY WAY"

ANN, 69, has lost three stone, ditched her painkillers and "got her life in order" since beginning therapy at Miruji.

The former fraud investigator from Shrewsbury, was forced to retire with agonising back pain and said she was taking eight strong painkillers just to get through each day.

She began using the Miruji chair and has not looked back. "I noticed the benefit right away," she said. "I've had a terribly bad back for most of my

life. I've tried massage and various other interventions but the pain still prevailed."

Ann said she lost three stones "very quickly", taking herself in hand after the audio encouraged her to "get her life in order".

I do still take some painkillers but I am in no way dependent on them as I used to be. I know Miruji may not be the ultimate solution to my back pain but it is very, very effective and extremely helpful.

"I am hooked for life.

"EVERYONE SAID IT WOULDN'T WORK, BUT I LOST 2 STONE"

SUSAN Childs thought Miruji sounded 'too good to be true' until she tried it for herself – and lost two stone.

"I was curious about it and thought I'd give it a try," she said.

That was 12 months ago. Now she is singing Miruji's praises from the rooftops.

"Everyone I talk to said it couldn't possibly work, but I don't think they fully understand it."

She has proved them wrong, and then some, by losing two

stone, from 14st 4lb to 12st 4lb and dropping several dress sizes.

"You have to be ready to make that commitment to go regularly," she said. "I never in a million years thought I could do this. It's absolutely brilliant. I'm pulling jeans out from my wardrobe that I haven't been anywhere near for four years. I used to hide it all under the baggiest of tops. I am so much more confident, my husband is really, really impressed with me."

Susan eats smaller meals, but nothing in between and she still has a pudding every day.

NHS MANAGER SAYS "I FEEL SO MUCH BETTER"

NHS manager Sonia began coming to Miruji, attracted by the idea of having some time to herself, for relaxation and with a view to losing some weight.

She has a very busy job, with competing demands upon her time and is mum to an eight-year-old daughter.

"What was remarkable was not so much the weight-loss, although I did lose half a stone," she said, "but it was what I would call the 'well-ness factor'. I felt so much better – more centred, relaxed and positive. There was a whole range of benefits to it that I hadn't considered when I started out."

Sonia, 44, from Shrewsbury, says

"MIRUJI HAS HELPED ME LOSE OVER 5 STONE"

IF Angie Robinson's husband Tom ever wins the lottery, he says he wants to invest it all in Miruji.

Seventy-two year-old Angie, from Roden, was a dress size 32 and barely able to leave the house.

Now, with the help of the Sit and Slim programme, she has lost six and a half stone and is a healthier size 24-26 and far more agile.

"I'm so overwhelmed with the chair; it's unreal. I've been able

to walk better, go upstairs better. I was a complete mess; I was getting to be like a hermit. I didn't want to go anywhere. "My husband Tom said he's noticed such a difference in my wellbeing. My whole personality has changed, I'm more relaxed. I had a job to keep up with him when we're walking. Now it's the other way around. He's absolutely delighted for me."

She has macular degenerative disease, emphysema, sciatica and short-term memory loss, follow-

ing an accident when she slipped and hit her head on concrete. It was when she was diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes on top of her other problems, that she decided to try Miruji.

She is so proud that she has achieved such sustained weight-loss for herself and is determined to continue: "I love it. I can't wait – I look forward to 'my therapy'. It's so relaxing. I can't describe to anyone how much it's made me feel in myself, just wellbeing."

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The teddy bear zip wire fundraiser allowed participants to enjoy views of Oswestry from the top of the St Oswald's Church tower



Brian Rothera and his son Ben Rothera with "Boots" the Bear

Zip, zip, hooray!

TEDDY bears, dogs, cats, monkeys and even a dinosaur braved the windy weather to zip wire from the church tower, in what has now become a festive tradition.

The soft toys – waved off by owners of all ages – plunged from the tower of St Oswald's Parish Church in Oswestry, partly just for the fun of it, partly to raise money for the church.

Report by Thomas Morton

Organiser Brian Rothera said: "This is the third year we have done it, the first year it was to raise money for the bells because they needed repairs, but then we got a lot of people who said they were sorry they missed it, so we put it on again and now it's a yearly thing."

"Now it's as much for fun as to raise money, really," he said, although added £90 had been made to go towards the upkeep of

the tower and bells, more than they had expected to make. He said: "We were a bit worried about the weather as the forecast was terrible. It was very windy so they were very brave those who went to the top of the tower."

"But luckily the rain held off and it wasn't cold at all. The bears negotiated challenging conditions but all came through."

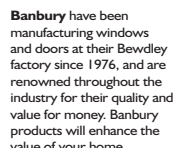
"The bears all got certificates of bravery and we had some older people as well as children launching them from the top of the tower and running down to catch them at the bottom."



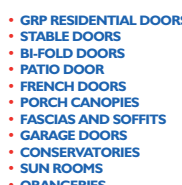
Molly Sperring, 11, and Sam Sperring, eight, from Oswestry took part in the teddy bear zip wire fundraising fun

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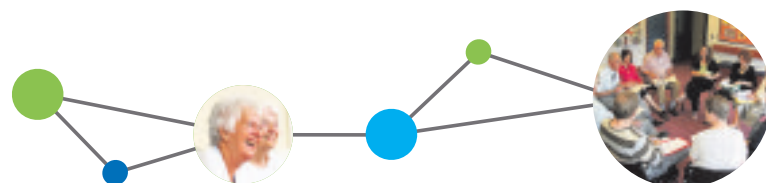
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Telford Shopping Centre, Telford, TF3 4BX

27 January, 10am - 2pm
Bridgnorth Community Hospital

28 January, 10am - 2pm
Ludlow Community Hospital

9 February 10am - 2pm
Whitchurch Community Hospital

10 February 10am - 2pm
Bishops Castle Community Hospital

www.nhsfuturefit.co.uk

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



Problems faced by the buyer and seller



Bad communication – either not calling enough, or chasing too much: 21 per cent
Buyer or seller felt as if the agent didn't care about them: 14 per cent
Not being informed about known property faults, e.g. – structural issues, damp, etc: 13 per cent
Making promises they could not keep: 11 per cent
Being too pressurising: 10 per cent
Over exaggerating a property description: 10 per cent
Over pricing a property that a buyer is interested in: nine per cent
Feeling as if the agent was dishonest: nine per cent
The agent not having all the information the buyer or seller needed e.g. service charges, council tax: eight per cent
Not being able to contact the agent: eight per cent
Not putting the right offers to vendors: six per cent
Agents forgetting who the buyer or seller was (too many buyers or sellers on the agents' books at one time): six per cent

Estate agents you can trust

For most of us buying or selling a home is the most expensive – and stressful – thing we will ever do.

Some research has even found people claiming it was more painful that being made redundant, getting divorced or even going bankrupt.

So it is absolutely vital to make the right choice when deciding whether to use a traditional estate agent, an online house selling website, one of the new 'hybrid' agents or even just going it alone.

And if you decide to use an estate agent, it is equally vital to make sure you choose the right one for you.

The best way to be reassured that you are putting yourself in good hands is to look out for the NAEA logo.

The National Association of Estate Agents is the UK's leading professional body for estate agency personnel, being part of a group representing 13,000 members who practice across all aspects of property services both in the UK and overseas.

These include residential and commercial sales and lettings, property management, business transfer, auctioneering and land. The NAEA is also a sister organisation to the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA).

NAEA is dedicated to the goal of professionalism within all aspects of property, estate agency and land. Its aim is to reassure the general public that by appointing an NAEA member to represent them they will receive in return the highest level of integrity and service for all property matters. Both NAEA and ARLA



members are bound by a vigorously enforced Code of Practice and adhere to professional Rules of Conduct. Failure to do so can result in heavy financial penalties and possible expulsion from the associations.

With house prices back on the up, largely because demand for homes currently far outweighs the supply, the property market has become even more of a minefield than in previous years.

Mark Hayward, managing director at the National Association of Estate Agents, says: "In such a lively market, it's important that agents are delivering exceptional standards of service.

"Consumers need to ensure that they are looking for the NAEA logo in estate agents' windows, doors and on websites. NAEA agents integrate high quality and best practice services in to everything they do.

"They are regulated and adhere to a strict code of practice. Whilst problems can and do arise during the process of buying or selling a home, using a NAEA agent will put consumers' minds at ease that any issues can be dealt with in a professional and safe manner."

Research carried out by the association for its Look for the Logo campaign found nearly two thirds – 60 per cent – of home buyers and

sellers had faced problems with their estate agents over the last five years, but 39 per cent had not considered whether their agents were regulated or not. That meant their agent might not have been signed up to a code of conduct or have any regulatory body over seeing them. More than a third of those taking part in the survey (37 per cent) admitted that their problems could have been avoided if their agent was better regulated.

The biggest complaint from the UK's property market was the fact that their estate agent had bad communication skills – either not calling them back, or chasing them too much (21 per cent). A further one in seven (14 per cent) felt as though their agent didn't care about them. An additional 13 per cent claimed that their estate agent had not told them about known faults in properties they were looking at.

Mark Hayward said: "Buying a property is the biggest purchase and financial commitment of your life, and can be an overwhelming experience. It takes a lot of hard work and research to ensure you are ticking all the right boxes, and no doubt people come across many challenges along the way. An estate agent should really be there to help this process, not hinder, and therefore the choice of which agent to go with is an important one.

"With the extensive administrative tasks and processes involved in buying or selling a home, communication between agents and homeowners is essential. It's the estate agents' role to make these processes seem as pain-free and seamless as possible, which regulated agents endeavour to do."



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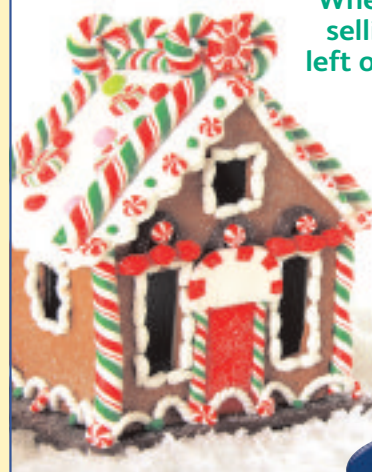


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Park Street Oswestry £267,500

- Spacious and well presented 4 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Situated on a generous corner plot in a popular residential area
- Entrance Hall, Family Room/Study, Dining Room, Lounge
- Kitchen, Utility, 4 Bedrooms (master en-suite) & Family Bathroom
- Private off road parking, single detached garage
- Well maintained front and rear gardens.
- Gas central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating D



Wilfred Owen Road Oswestry £240,000

- Renovated 4/5 Bed Detached Family Home
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge
- Kitchen/Dining Room, Study/Bed 5,
- 4 first floor Beds (master en-suite) & Family Bathroom
- Large established private gardens
- Off road parking & integral garage
- UPVC D/G, Gas C/H, rewired. EPC Rating D



Overton Road St Martins £239,000

- 4 Double Bedroom Detached House
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall
- Sitting Room, Living Room
- Kitchen, Dining Room, Cloakroom
- 4 Beds, Family Bathroom, En-suite
- Driveway & Garage. EPC Rating D



Berlian Close Weston Rhyn £205,000

- Detached 3 Bedroom Family Home
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge
- Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- 3 Beds, Family Bathroom
- Large mature garden
- Integral garage, double glazing
- Gas C/H. EPC Rating D



Pentre Shrewsbury £200,000

- A superbly presented and spacious 2 Bedroom Detached House
- Situated approximately 2 miles from the popular village of Nesscliffe
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Cloakroom/WC
- Large Kitchen/Breakfast Room, 2 Double Bedrooms (en-suites)
- Large garden provides parking for several vehicles or caravan
- Double glazing and oil fired central heating. EPC Rating C
- NO CHAIN



Cae Gwynn Close Morda £190,000

- Superbly appointed 4 Bedroom Detached House
- The property has been maintained to the highest of standard
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen
- Utility, Cloakroom, Conservatory
- 4 Bedrooms (master en-suite) and Family Bathroom
- Enclosed rear garden with patio, Driveway parking and garage
- Gas fired central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating C



Nant Lane Morda £184,950

- Deceptively spacious Dormer Bungalow in an elevated position
- Hall, Lounge, Study, Kitchen, Bedrm 1
- Bedroom 2/Dining Rm, Ground Floor Bathrm
- 2 1st Floor Bedrms, adjoining garage & cloaks
- The gardens extend around the property
- D/G, Gas C/H, cavity wall & roof insulation. EPC 'D'



School Lane Gobowen £179,950

- 4 Bedroom Link Detached Dormer Bungalow
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Kitchen
- Dining Room/Bed 3, Bedroom 2, Bathroom
- Lounge and 2 further First Floor Bedrooms
- Good plot with ample off road parking, garaging
- Private and well established rear garden
- D/G, Gas C/H and solar panels. EPC Rating C



Henley Drive Oswestry £171,000

- Immaculate 3 Bed Detached Property
- Entrance Hall, Cloaks, Lounge
- Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility
- 3 Beds (master en-suite) & Family Bathroom
- Well stocked and established gardens
- Off-road parking with potential for garage
- uPVC D/G, gas central heating, EPC Rating C



Y Berlian Llangedwyn £169,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- In an elevated position with views over and across the Tanat Valley
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Diner, Utility Room
- Garden Room, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Front and side gardens including large gravelled driveway and single garage.
- Oil central heating and double glazing are installed throughout. EPC rating



Churchfields St Martins £129,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property
- The property was constructed approx 10 years ago
- Ent Hall, Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility, Cloaks, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Drive & garage with good size rear garden
- Gas C/H and D/G. EPC Rating C



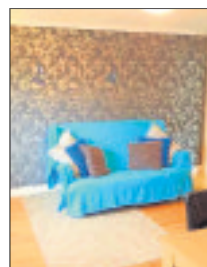
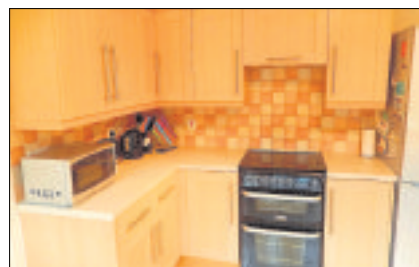
The Meads Weston Rhyn £114,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom End-of-Terrace House
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, large Conservatory
- Kitchen/Dining Room, 3 Beds and Shower Room
- Good size rear garden, driveway & garage
- Gas central heating, uPVC double glazing
- EPC Rating D



Five bedroom property has outstanding views

A detached five bedroomed country property with outstanding views, Bryn Paenod, Llanfechain, is on the market through JJ Dell & Co with a guide price of £400,000. The property is situated in a large garden and has been extensively refurbished by the current owners to a high standard throughout. Accommodation comprises kitchen, drawing room, sun room, lounge, library, study, cloakroom, five bedrooms and two bathrooms. There is double garaging, a good sized garden and the property is in a private position. For more information contact JJ Dell & Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



Beautifully presented property in a popular village

An attractive modern and beautifully presented three bedroom end of terrace family home, 42 Parc Caradog is situated in a convenient location in the popular village of Trewern. It is on the market through Halls for £139,500. The property is situated on a small estate of 17 houses which were built in 2005/06. The property is a most suitable project for a blossoming young family with three bedrooms, two bathrooms and the study/nursery. The accommodation is very adaptable and an inspection is recommended. For more details contact Halls on 01938 555552.



Smallholding is in an idyllic rural location

A smallholding in an idyllic rural location, Ty Cerrig at Croesaubach has outstanding views of the Shropshire plain, yet is just three miles from Oswestry. It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson with offers in the region of £450,000. The property comprises a spacious three-bedroomed detached cottage standing in mature gardens, a range of useful outbuildings, stables and field shelters together with about 10.75 acres of excellent pasture land located in a ring fence immediately to the rear of the house. Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 or visit www.bowensonandwatson.co.uk



Home with award winning gardens sells in a week

Sold subject to contract in just seven days, 3 Llanforda Mead, Oswestry, is a stunning four-bedroomed detached house with award winning gardens. Marketed by Morris Marshall & Poole at £285,000, this home also has exceptionally well maintained and well planned accommodation. Outside is also a garage, integral store, a shed, greenhouse and vegetable plot. For further information contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595 or visit www.morrismarshall.co.uk or www.mmpgold.co.uk



Review of the Year

A look back through the highs and lows of 2015 in your area



Twelve months full of significant success

WELCOME to the Oswestry and Border Chronicle's review of 2015.

The last 12 months in the Oswestry and Welshpool area have once again provided a wide variety of news stories for our staff to report.

There have been many highs and quite a few lows but the year 2015 has never been dull. One of the most noteworthy events of the last 12 months was the General Election. For people in Oswestry and Welshpool it was a case of same again after North Shropshire returned Owen Paterson as its MP

while Glyn Davies retained his seat in Montgomeryshire.

But of course it was the people of Oswestry and Welshpool and their many successes which the Oswestry and Border Chronicle enjoyed reporting on the most.

Whether it was the opening of new busi-

nesses or the winning of top awards, the Chronicle was delighted to champion our local firms.

One of the most successful local firms this year has been Booka Bookshop in Oswestry.

The firm was named the best independent

bookshop in the country with Rose Day, Carie Morris and Jess Williams from the business delighted to show off the award.

Please enjoy taking a quick look back at some of the stories the Oswestry and Border Chronicle has brought to you over the last 12 months.



Actor Ian Puleston Davies, left, opened a new sculpture at Hope House



Oswestry's dining scene was boosted by the opening of The Townhouse



An Oswestry fashion show raised thousands of pounds for charity

A bit of a stormy start



It was celebration time at St John the Baptist Primary



Hopes were high Llanfyllin's Lonely Tree would win a top European title



Marches School pupils were celebrating exam results



Lisa Wallace from the British Heart Foundation shop



Protesters were camped in North Shropshire

EDUCATION was deep in the minds of Welshpool parents at the start of 2015 when a proposed schools shake-up caused a storm of protest.

Parents concerned that their primary school will close to make way for a new £8 million "super school" called a public meeting.

It was arranged by governors at Leighton Primary School who were worried that plans for a review of schools in the Welshpool area will lead to the closure of their school.

Holly Dyer, a parent and governor at Leighton, which is two miles outside Welshpool, said: "From the parents' point of view they are really happy they have this £8 million budget to spend on improving the schools, particularly Welshpool schools which need improving and bringing up to date.

"But Leighton parents are just a bit con-

January & February

fused as to why they have been included and other small schools in the area have not."

Powys County Council announced the review of Welshpool area schools the previous month. It was to look at the future of Ysgol Maesydre, Gungrog Church in Wales School, Ardryn Infants School, Oldford Infants School and Leighton. One option was to build one large primary school to accommodate all of the town's pupils.

Powys County Council's cabinet member for education, Councillor Arwel Jones said: "The council is committed to open and accountable management and we intend holding regular meetings with all stakeholders including Diocesan Authorities, governors, staff, parents and pupils throughout the process." Meanwhile Powys County Council would have to "learn lessons" after a damning report said more than 1,000 elderly and vulnerable people were put at potential risk by the transfer of council-run

home care services, the area's MP warned. Glyn Davies, Montgomeryshire MP, said the council needed to satisfy residents that it was delivering an acceptable standard of care.

Mr Davies was speaking as the council's cabinet met to discuss the independent report into difficulties with the transfer of the services.

The review, conducted by the Institute of Public Care, examined Powys County Council's handling of the commissioning process for new domiciliary care providers following a controversial handover. Council bosses apologised to those they had let down and councillors unanimously accepted the report's recommendations.

The year at Hope House Children's Hospice at Morda near Oswestry got off to a great start when Coronation Street star Ian Puleston-Davies cut the ribbon on a new sculpture at the site.

The dining scene in Oswestry was given a boost when celebrity chef Michael Caines oversaw the opening of a new restaurant.

The Townhouse in Willow Street held its opening event with both restaurant and bar areas filled to capacity.

While most of us were tucked up warm from the worst of the winter, the occupants of a protest camp set up to fight plans to drill for gas in north Shropshire spent a lot of time trying to keep warm and dry in their makeshift home. Camp Duddleston, to the north of Oswestry, had been cleverly constructed with wooden pallets, tarpaulins, insulating bubble wrap and old duvets. It sat on the proposed site of an exploratory drilling rig that, if granted planning permission, would have searched for underground coal bed methane.

A primary school was removed from special measures just months after being judged to be inadequate by Ofsted inspectors. St John the Baptist CE Primary School in Ruyton XI Towns near Oswestry was placed in special measures in February of 2014. But staff, students and governors were celebrating after Ofsted inspectors returned and judged that

provision was 'good' in all aspects. A fashion show organised by a women's clothes shop raised £2,700 for charity.

Jenni Pearce, owner of Out of Town and Fab Feet in Upper Brook Street, Oswestry, presented a cheque for the money raised to Oswestry Friends of Cancer Research UK.

There was love in the air in Oswestry in February because lovers were able to post romantic messages to each other on the window of the British Heart Foundation shop for a donation with the cash raised going to the charity. There was celebrations at schools in Oswestry after The Marches School recorded its best ever GCSE results and the best ranked school in Shropshire was the nearby Moreton Hall Girls School. In Llanfyllin hopes were blooming that the town's landmark Lonely Tree would take the title of European Tree of the Year. The tree had been felled by huge storms but the community had rallied around to try to save it. The effort saw the tree being shortlisted for the European title.

Blow for windfarms



Work started on development at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital



Oswestry firefighters were gearing up for a charity challenge



Champion jockey AP McCoy and Rose Paterson



Evie Lou Harrington on her sponsored walk



Children were able to walk more safely to school in Gobowen after a successful safety campaign



Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley were in Oswestry



Owen's Travelmaster raised money for Hope House



A new market in Oswestry was proving a hit

PLANS to build windfarms across Mid Wales suffered a major blow in the spring after Conservative environment secretary Liz Truss said there would be no funding for on-shore wind projects should the party remain in government.

Speaking on a visit to Montgomery with Conservative parliamentary candidate Glyn Davies, who had been MP for the area for the past five years, the environment secretary said she understood campaigners' fears over the plans.

An air show held in memory of a pilot and airport owner who died in a plane crash was given a Welsh tourism award. The Bob Jones Air Show in Welshpool was awarded a silver medal at the National Tourism Awards for Wales. The air show had been held at the air-base for the past eight years but was renamed

March & April

in 2012 after its founder, and owner of Welshpool Airport, Mr Jones, died in a plane crash.

A posse of firefighters were gearing up to run almost three miles for charity – dressed in their full firefighting kit. Not only were the crew of six from Oswestry in training to take part in the 5K race in Liverpool, they were to be joined by two of their children also dressed in Young Firefighter uniforms during the event. The runners were taking part in the Run for the 96 5K at Stanley Park in Liverpool.

Work started on a new £14 million theatre complex at Shropshire's orthopaedic hospital.

Four theatres and a new dedicated bone cancer centre were to be built to serve patients from across the county and beyond at the award-winning Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital. Bosses at the Gobowen-based hospital donned hard hats and high-visibility jackets for a groundbreaking ceremony. Coach tour holidaymakers from across the region raised more

than £1,000 for Hope House Children's Hospice. Owen's Travelmaster, based in Oswestry, holds a reunion weekend each year to give their customers the chance to meet up with friends they have made on previous trips. This year four coaches took almost 200 people for a weekend in and around Wiltshire.

Martyn Hall, marketing director at Owen's Travelmaster, said it was always a very popular weekend. Mr Hall said the weekend always involved a charity raffle.

He said: "Our suppliers are very good and donate prizes. This year we raised £1,100, bringing the total we have raised over the years to over £5,000."

Youngsters in Gobowen were able to walk to school more safely after villagers won a two-year campaign to install a new zebra crossing.

The battling grandmother who spearheaded the fight to get the crossing installed in the village said it had been welcomed by everyone in the community. Dot Basham said it had been a long time coming, but the new crossing was

wonderful for the village. Juggling her role as chairwoman of Aintree and wife of North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson was no mean feat but Rose Paterson began the grand opening of the famous course's racing festival by welcoming AP McCoy to the course's hall of fame.

A brave seven-year-old girl raised an incredible £3,000 during an emotional fundraising challenge for her sister. Just two years ago Evie-Lou Harrington, who suffers from cerebral palsy, was unable to walk and needed to use a wheelchair to get around.

Thanks to a life-changing operation in America the youngster from Llanygog is now able to get around using a special frame.

Her nine-year-old sister Emilie was looking to undergo the same operation and as part of the fundraising effort Evie-Lou signed up to a sponsored walk at Lake Vyrnwy's dam.

She was joined by around 35 other people for the walk and thanks to huge support from the community Evie-Lou raised more than £3,000.

Evie-Lou's mum, Donna Harrington, said the family was "incredibly proud" of her daughter's efforts. "Everyone was cheering her on as she got to the finish, and there was just a wonderful smile on her face," she said. Mrs Harrington said that Evie-Lou's operation has made a huge difference to her life in alleviating the symptoms of her illness and that the same procedure will prevent her older sister from getting worse. Oswestry Literary Festival generates an estimated quarter of a million pounds for the area's economy, organisers revealed. The huge economic boost to the town was revealed as Oswestry enjoyed another star-studded event. Judy Finnigan, Richard Madeley, Frank Cottrell Boyce and Alastair Campbell, were among the star names. Oswestry's new outdoor Friday market proved an immediate hit according to delighted traders. The market has previously only opened on Wednesdays and Saturdays, but after demand from traders Oswestry Town Council agreed a trial period for the Friday market.



In The Pink Productions were ready to take to the stage

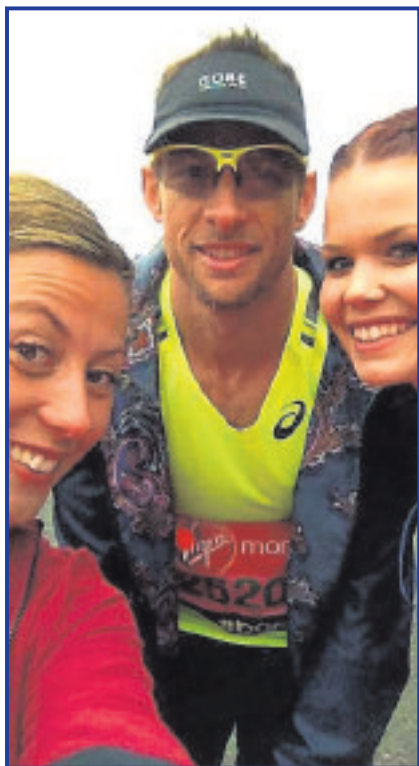


The Chronicle's We Mean Business campaign was launched in Oswestry



Debbie Marais from Oswestry Library gets knitting

Action vow on yobs



Amy Hughes met the stars at the London Marathon



Big plans were announced for Hope House Children's Hospice's birthday celebrations



Ness Castagnino examines materials at the big dig



Phyllis Hurst took part in an open gardens event



Toni Kirkham from Pant with her husband Pete

FRESH action was to be taken to crack down on street yobs in Welshpool it was announced in May – at the same time as a new strategy to tackle alcohol-related trouble in Oswestry was launched.

And the moves came as police revealed a major upgrade in Oswestry's CCTV system had helped bring more than 50 prosecutions in six months.

Councillors in Welshpool were demanding more to be done in their town to tackle anti-social behaviour and street drinking amid claims elderly residents were becoming too afraid to walk in certain areas. The council resolved to ask Powys County Council to consider bringing in a People and Place Order banning street drinking.

Meanwhile, a trial of a new course designed to cut the number of people banned from pubs and clubs due to bad behaviour was starting in

May & June

Oswestry. The Shropshire Against Night-time Disorder (SAND) trial was being launched to coincide with the relaunch of the town's PubWatch scheme. And Inspector Rik Klair revealed volunteers manning the town's upgraded CCTV system were playing a key role in helping with prosecutions.

Residents in a village near Oswestry uncovered some historic treasures during an archaeological dig. A Time Team-style dig had been taking place in Maesbury Marsh. Items uncovered included a suspected prehistoric flint tool, a kiln used to smelt iron, and pottery.

Pensioner power was working its magic on two gardens in Whittington which were set to open for charity. Phyllis Hurst and Barbara Molesworth were both octogenarians yet had the energy and enthusiasm to keep their gardens looking stunning.

Mrs Hurst had won awards for her efforts and her garden was among those opening up

to raise money for Save the Children. And Garden Croft in Daisy Lane had been planted by Barbara Molesworth who, with her late husband Doug, had been raising money for Save the Children for several decades.

A family launched an appeal to raise £20,000 so that their mother could travel to Europe for life-changing treatment for a disease which had confined her to a wheelchair. Toni Kirkham, from Pant, contracted Lyme disease five years ago after being bitten by a tick while working as a gardener.

It was announced that Hope House Children's Hospice would be celebrating its 21st birthday in 2016 with hundreds of people joining in one of the biggest children's tea parties ever seen. The hospice teamed up with the British Ironwork Centre at Oswestry which would stage the event.

Oswestry's record-breaking marathon runner Amy Hughes led home the area's athletes in the London Marathon.

The 27-year-old crossed the finish line in

four hours and 28 minutes, alongside Blue Peter presenter Lindsey Russell.

Amy had spent the past few months training the children's presenter for the run.

In the week before the marathon Amy, who last year ran 53 marathons in 53 days for charity, had run the 200 miles from Oswestry to London.

Amy met racing driver Jenson Button at the marathon.

The people of Oswestry were catching the knitting bug after a drop-in session was held in the town to encourage more people to take up the hobby.

Staff at Oswestry Library ran the session to help beginners and improvers develop their skills with the hope that people will contribute to a large wool-based work of art.

The installation was to go on display at the library during the annual Oswestry Makes festival in October.

The Oswestry and Border Chronicle was making news itself by launching a unique busi-

ness campaign in June. The We Mean Business campaign was launched to support local firms and champion innovation. The campaign was launched at a meeting of Oswestry Chamber of Commerce.

Singers and thespians were set to be 'in the pink' to raise money for a breast cancer charity. Oswestry Golf Club's lady captain Janet Williams chose Breakthrough Breast Cancer as her fundraising charity.

She had been involved in local amateur singing and acting groups for many years and to boost her fundraising efforts, she and a group of her musical friends got together to put on a show.

She said: "We are calling ourselves In The Pink Productions – pink is the colour associated with breast cancer charities."

Oswestry's Booka Bookshop was named UK & Ireland Independent Bookshop of the Year 2015 at The Bookseller Industry Awards.

Earlier in the year, it was also shortlisted in the UK's 'Best Small Shops' competition.

Drilling battle won



Welshpool Mayor Malcolm Douglass tried out a coracle



Alfie Bradley gave a sneak peak of a huge knife sculpture



Businessmen David Passmore and Mervin Annetts



Carwyn Jones was at the National Eisteddfod in Meifod



Crowds flocked to Oswestry Show once again to see the attractions and admire the produce



Farmers took action at Morrisons in Oswestry



Sarah and Lillian Ford from Gobowen



There was plenty of produce at Oswestry Food Festival

CAMPAIGNERS who won their year-long battle to halt a bid to drill for gas near St Martins warned residents had to be ready for further similar battles in the future.

The campaign to prevent coal bed methane drilling was finally won after energy bosses confirmed they were no longer interested in the site.

Gas Energy, which had acquired applicant Dart Energy, said it was not progressing with its scheme to site a test drill pad at Brooklands Farm at Dudleston Heath.

But Oswestry Town Councillor Duncan Kerr, a member of the Green Party, warned: "This is not the last we will hear from these companies I am sure. Oswestry sits on a coalbed. There will be those who want to drill for the gas underneath our feet."

Thousands of people packed into Oswestry Show, bringing a huge cash boost to the record

July & August

numbers of trade stands and food stalls at the event. Organisers said they were delighted with the success of the show which produced record gate receipts while business bosses said the annual event served as a valuable shop window for future trade. Police were called when farmers targeted the Morrisons store in Oswestry, clearing its shelves of dairy products in a protest against poor milk prices.

About 50 mainly young, farmers and their supporters, went into the supermarket as part of a day-long protest across Shropshire.

They quickly removed all the milk, yoghurt and cheese from the dairy aisle. They then set about putting the milk in the water aisle at the supermarket to show that the 89p price for two litres of milk, was cheaper than bottled water. Leaving the store when asked to by the police, called in by the management, they then held up banners and chanted "Morrisons, you've been milked" at the front of the shop.

A first glimpse was given of the biggest sculpture to be attempted by an Oswestry company yet – the hands of the thought-provoking Knife Angel.

When finished, the sculpture would stand 25 feet high and would be the only one of its kind in Britain making a stand against violence and aggression. The artwork was being built behind closed doors at the British Ironwork Centre at Aston near Oswestry.

Sculptor Alfie Bradley had spent many hundreds of hours creating the angel, from thousands of knives, collected in an amnesty run in partnership with police forces across the country.

Wales First Minister Carwyn Jones said he was "delighted" to see the National Eisteddfod in Powys.

Mr Jones visited the festival, held in Meifod, near Welshpool, where he spent the day meeting visitors, looking at exhibits and taking in the Welsh cultural event.

He said: "It's fantastic, good to be in Meifod."

I'm delighted that the eisteddfod comes to parts of Wales that are not visited so often by big events."

More than 30,000 visitors flocked to the cultural festival during its opening weekend, with thousands more expected over the duration of the event.

A Gobowen mother said she would not be letting her daughter play in the garden – because of a sewage problem.

Sarah Ford's garden was repeatedly flooded with raw sewage over a period of eight months.

The long-running problem came to a head when raw sewage not only appeared again in the garden in West Place but also came up through manhole covers in the Fernhill area of the village.

Miss Ford said as a result she would not be allowing 15-month-old Lilian to play outside in the garden.

Two Oswestry businessmen assured customers their working relationship is all above board.

David Passmore runs the Little Pie Shop – next door to Sweeney Todd barbers.

David popped a reassuring notice in the window saying although he gets on famously with his retailing neighbour, he doesn't buy meat from him. Both he and barber Mervin Annetts noticed the irony of the shops standing side by side immediately. "It is purely coincidence," Mr Passmore said.

Thousands of people turned out to enjoy the tastes and smells of Oswestry's ninth annual food and drink festival. More than 60 local food producers set out their stalls at the two-day festival. New stalls included a patisserie and producers specialising in gluten-free and vegetarian and vegan delicacies.

Isabelle Waine, festival secretary, said the event was a huge success.

A Welshpool waterway was filled with coracles as people took to the water to try out the ancient form of transport.

Dozens of people climbed aboard the circular boats to test the water at Welshpool Wharf.



Welshpool children took part in a reading challenge



Paul Milner and Peter Cherrington were looking forward to sporting action



Morgan Nicholason with her dog Nos at the Park Issa vets open day

Trade boom delight



Rev Caroline Rhodes on a bench made out of a bell



Lieutenant Colonel Graham Shannon and Mark Hignett inspected a new war trench system



Jack Clutton, right, rolled up his sleeves to raise cash



A plaque was unveiled to mark a famous battle



There was a giant spider at the British Ironwork Centre

JUST half a dozen shops were vacant in Welshpool town centre in September, with civic leaders and business bosses saying the town was booming.

Welshpool Town Council chiefs revealed just six units were empty in the town centre, while the Tourist Information Centre was the fourth busiest in the whole of Wales.

Town Clerk Robert Robinson said the figure equated to just 3.5 per cent of businesses being empty, well below the Welsh average of 15 per cent.

It was announced that a bid for £4 million of lottery money was to be submitted as part of a project to restore part of the historic Montgomery Canal.

Funds were needed for the next section of the scheme to restore all 33 miles of the canal, between Lower Frankton near Oswestry and

September & October

Newtown, which would help boost the economy of towns and villages along the waterway.

A new use was found for old bells at St John's Church in Pool Quay. When it was found that they bells needed to be replaced, parishioners didn't want to see them just thrown away. As a result, the bells were turned into an unusual swinging bench. And the new bench took pride of place in the churchyard at St John's Church. The Rev Caroline Rhodes said the bench has a special place in the hearts of the congregation because it had been dedicated to the memory of former vicar Mike Powell. A sport more associated with older members of the community was to be on offer to young people at the Oswestry Community Games. The event would include activities from athletics to Zumba and zorbing.

And children would also be able to try their hand at bowling after Oswestry Town Council gave a grant of £700 to the Community Games

and a £1,800 grant was given to a new junior bowling club by Sport England. Oswestry mayor Peter Cherrington and deputy mayor Paul Milner said they were looking forward to the event.

High school pupils had been helping encourage younger children to complete a summer reading challenge. Powys County Council's Library Service asked high school pupils to step forward to become Reading Activists to encourage younger children to enjoy reading six library books over the summer holidays.

Youngsters in Welshpool were among many who took part in the initiative. A plaque was unveiled to mark one of the most ferocious battles between the English and the Welsh, which took place in the Ceiriog Valley near Oswestry. More than 100 people turned out to see the unveiling of the plaque, which was erected in honour of the 850th anniversary of the conflict between the invading forces of King Henry II of England and an alliance of Welsh princes led by Owain Gwynedd.

Mark Williams, 53, from Weston Rhyn near Oswestry, had spent years keeping the memory of the most significant event in Welsh medieval history alive and had helped organise the installation of the plaque.

Jack Clutton rolled up his sleeves and raised hundreds of pounds for charity. Jack, 13, from Oswestry, washed scores of cars, vans and even a caravan all in aid of the Birmingham Children's Hospital. All the money he raised went to the hospital, where his younger cousin had been treated. A fascinating open-air classroom offered an insight into life in the trenches in the First World War. Park Hall Countryside Experience near Oswestry officially opened its replica of the trenches.

They included hundreds of metres of shelter from the front line, complete with "shell holes", firing steps, listening posts and even an officers' billet. Lieutenant Colonel Graham Shannon from the 1st Battalion the Royal Irish Regiment performed the official opening.

Mark Hignett from the project said he was

delighted with the completed trenches. Hundreds of people turned out for a family fun day at an Oswestry veterinary centre to celebrate the opening of its new facilities. The Park Issa veterinary centre in Salop Road celebrated the building of new operating theatres, laboratory and kennels as well as a large, enclosed dog run by throwing the complex open to the public.

Staff said they were delighted with the response from the public. There were more than 80 entrants in the morning dog show.

An Oswestry tourist attraction was a hive of activity when it hosted a visit by peace envoy Terry Waite, staged a tug of war championship – and proudly showed off its latest addition.

All the events took place at the British Ironwork Centre at Aston near Oswestry.

Mr Waite was at the centre to talk about his peace work around the world. Meanwhile the centre hosted its third annual tug of war event.

And the British Ironwork Centre also welcomed its new addition – a huge spider sculpture.

A change at the top



Andrea Twigg from Chirk had a puzzle to solve



Laura Oakley, Sam Oakley, Ben Laraway and Katy Laraway enjoyed Oswestry Christmas Live



Linzi and Leon Isaac with paramedic Steve Davies



Gregor Ritchie and Ashok Bansal at The Lion Quays



There was plenty of panto fun in Oswestry



The New Saints helped out Oswestry Foodbank



Jon and Joanna Lewis at The Talbot in Ruyton-XI-Towns



A helicopter landed at the home of The New Saints

THERE was a change at the top at Shropshire Council at the end of the year when Keith Barrow announced he was stepping down as leader with immediate effect.

Mr Barrow also resigned from his position as Shropshire Councillor for Oswestry South Division.

He said he was proud of his work at the council but his motivation had wavered in recent months.

There were new moves to help boost markets in Oswestry and in Welshpool.

Stallholders in Oswestry were told a seminar would be held to look at how to further improve the markets.

In Welshpool plans were announced to revitalise the town's Monday market.

The new owner of a hotel complex said he made the decision to buy it the moment he drove through the gates.

November & December

Dr Ashok Bansal said the Lion Quays, near Oswestry, gave off such a positive vibe that he made an offer to the selling agent within a minute of meeting.

The former surgeon was at the complex to discuss future plans for the hotel, restaurant and country club and spa with the management team, headed by Gregor Ritchie.

He said: "I envisage a type of Narnia somewhere where people can enjoy ice skating, watch an ice show but also enjoy the magic of winter."

"I also want to see the Lion Quays lit up with beautiful lighting. We have the canal passing through the grounds. Imagine if the water was lit with coloured lights, it would be beautiful."

A football pitch became a temporary helicopter landing site when a teenager and a child had to be airlifted to hospital after a crash.

Air ambulances landed on the pitch at The Venue near Oswestry, home of The New Saints.

Meanwhile The New Saints players were doing their bit for charity when they visited a foodbank to donate treats for families in need. The New Saints FC donated more than 50 advent calendars and selection boxes to the Oswestry Foodbank.

Club manager Craig Harrison said he and the players were more than happy to help the local community.

He said: "With Christmas around the corner this is something I am really happy to support."

"To help children by giving them something like an advent calendar is the least we can do and I speak on behalf of all the players when I say that the football club will continue to fully support the local community."

A mother who collapsed at home praised the quick-thinking actions of her five-year-old son who made a potentially life-saving 999 call.

Linzi Isaac, 22, was at her Welshpool home with son Leon and one-year-old daughter Mia when she suffered an unexpected seizure.

Leon calmly called for an ambulance, and

with instructions from a call handler was able to put his mother in the recovery position, check his little sister was safe and unlock the door for paramedics.

Paramedic Steve Davies said: "When we got to the address, Leon wouldn't let us in until we told him who we were."

The towns of Oswestry and Welshpool were both well in the festive spirit after thousands of people attended Christmas events.

The streets of Oswestry were packed when the Christmas Live festive spectacular was staged.

A fairground, an ice rink and streets stalls and entertainment made the event a huge success.

The streets of Oswestry were also packed for the town's Christmas parade.

In Welshpool the Christmas lights switch-on proved popular once again while the town's Winter Festival was well supported.

A pub in a north Shropshire village reopened as the latest to be run by a county brewery.

The Talbot in Ruyton-XI-Towns, near Oswestry, was the 20th to be taken over by Joule's Brewery of Market Drayton and reopened after a major refurbishment.

Landlady Joanna Lewis said: "We have been overwhelmed by the support and encouragement we have had from family and friends."

A Chirk woman inherited a mystery.

Andrea Twigg was trying to track down a family which used to live in the Oswestry area after inheriting 200 slides with an old projector from her father.

The slides showed family snapshots including groups of people posing outside a bungalow, people standing by a red car, a family wedding, and a number of pictures of children playing.

Cinderella, Snow White, the Mad Hatter and Captain Hook took to the stage for an unusual panto. Once Upon a Time, performed by Oswestry Musical Theatre Company, told the story of the daughter of Cinderella who was about to marry the son of Snow White and in the process banish evil from Pantoland forever.



Cinema listings

IN THE HEART OF THE SEA (12A)



Tales of the sea – 6/10
Herman Melville (Ben Whishaw) visits emotionally crippled seaman Thomas Nickerson (Brendan Gleeson) to hear the horrific story of the sinking of The Essex. In The Heart Of The Sea is a gung-ho tale of men who lived and perished on the waves in search of the lucrative whale oil that brought light to 19th century America.

DADDY'S HOME (12A)



Battle of the dads – 6/10
Will Ferrell plays mild-mannered radio DJ Brad Taggart. Out of the blue, his wife Sarah's first husband, Dusty Mayron, makes contact and persuades Brad to let him visit his children. Brad's benevolence and patience are tested to breaking point as Dusty swaggers into town, intent on breaking up the happy home.

STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS (12A)



Tour de force – 9/10
The First Order has risen from the ashes of the Galactic Empire, under the yoke of snarling Supreme Leader Snoke (Andy Serkis) and his unpredictable protégé, Kylo Ren (Adam Driver). General Leia Organa (Carrie Fisher) spearheads the rebellion, which includes fearless X-wing starfighter pilot Poe Dameron (Oscar Isaac). A delightfully pleasing balance between adrenaline-pumping thrills, laconic humour and soap opera histrionics.

GRANDMA (15)



Grand film – 8/10
Lesbian poet Elle (Lily Tomlin) is slowly coming to terms with the death of her long-term partner Vi when her 18-year-old granddaughter Sage arrives in search of money for an abortion. Elle and Sage tear around Los Angeles to call in unpaid debts and beg for cash. Grandma is a slight, yet entertaining character study, anchored by Tomlin's formidable turn.

Stars deserve Oscar

Review by Damon Smith

IT has been a momentous 12 months for the transgender community, which has advanced the fight for acceptance, equality and understanding into popular culture and the mainstream media.

Barack Obama became the first President to mention transgender people in his State Of The Union address, America confirmed a timetable for transgender soldiers to serve openly in the military, reality star Caitlyn Jenner graced the cover of Vanity Fair and award-winning TV shows Transparent and Orange Is The New Black blazed a trail for modern trans activism.

The Danish Girl is a fictionalised account of Lili Elbe, a pioneer of the movement, who was one of the first people to undergo gender reassignment surgery in the 1920s.

Director Tom Hooper, who collected an Academy Award for The King's Speech, adopts a restrained and painfully polite approach to the subject matter, artfully navigating a maelstrom of conflicting emotions.

Thankfully, his British reserve doesn't get in the way of us connecting to the characters, aided by tour-de-force performances from Eddie Redmayne as Lili and the luminous Alicia Vikander as his conflicted wife Gerda (Vikander).

Their commitment to demanding roles, including a deeply moving scene of full-frontal nudity for Redmayne, elevates Lucinda Coxon's script and guarantees a deluge of saltwater tears from audiences, who believe that love transcends all boundaries.



Eddie Redmayne deserves an Oscar nomination for his powerful performance

aries. Einar Wegener (Redmayne) is a respected artist in 1920s Copenhagen, who falls in love at first sight with his bohemian wife Gerda (Vikander).

She is also a painter and asks Einar to stand in for an absent female model so she can complete a portrait of their flamboyant ballerina friend, Ulla (Amber Heard).

The touch of soft fabric on Einar's skin awakens long-dormant feelings. Adopting

the guise of flame-haired ingenue Lili Elbe, Einar confronts the deep-rooted belief that he has been born into the wrong body.

"It doesn't matter what I wear. When I dream, they're Lili's dreams," Einar tearfully confides to his shell-shocked spouse.

Supported by Gerda and childhood friend Hans Axlil (Matthias Schoenaerts), Lili approaches controversial surgeon Warnekros (Sebastian Koch) to correct

nature's mistake. However, the medical procedure is both experimental and highly dangerous.

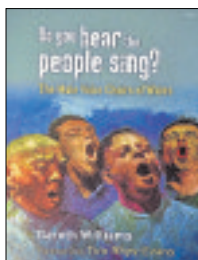
The Danish Girl treads an exceedingly safe path, but it's hard to resist the aching emotion that courses beneath each exquisite, painterly frame.

Redmayne and Vikander are mesmerising, conveying their protagonists' inner torment. Both deserve Oscar recognition.

Book reviews

DO YOU HEAR THE PEOPLE SING?

By Gareth Williams
Published by Gomer
Spot the odd one out. Rhosllannerchrugog, Frncysyllte, Hadley ... Here's a clue. They are all male voice choirs who won at the National Eisteddfod in Wales, but only two of the above are Welsh. Yes, Hadley really did gatecrash the Welsh party, not once, but three times. That is a bit of incidental Shropshire interest in this book which tells the story of the male voice choirs of Wales from their origins in the 19th century, to the present day. It is not just about music, but about the social and economic backdrop. The inter-war



years were tough times and many of the Welsh choristers were unemployed, and at least one choir was totally made up of singers who were without jobs. Williams follows their fortunes.

By Toby Neal

THE GREAT SWINDLE

By Pierre Lemaître
Published by MacLehose Press

The Great Swindle should come with the same warnings as Lemaître's previous books: if you're faint of heart, this is not for you. However, if you can endure, the rewards will be great. This novel, winner of the 2013 Prix Goncourt, is ostensibly far from his previous crime novels, but it shares the complexity of character and richness of story he's become known for. The story is played out in post-First World War France, though begins shortly before 1918. As the war comes to a close,



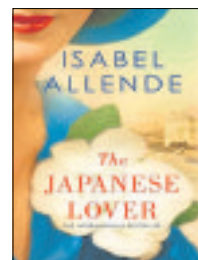
two soldiers unwittingly discover, in a final battle, that their lieutenant Pradelle has murdered two of his company – and attempted to cover it up by pushing one witness into a deep pit.

By Emma Herdman

THE JAPANESE LOVER

By Isabel Allende
Published by Simon & Schuster

Isabel Allende is well known for her wondrous storytelling and ornate descriptions. We feel glimmers of this in her latest novel, however I was a little disappointed to discover large passages of description and sometimes-stiff dialogue. Allende takes the reader on a journey of forbidden romance and deep, meaningful friendships. Irina Bazili and Alma Belasco cross paths in Lark House Nursing home where Irina is a care worker and Alma is a resident. Irina gives herself the task of discov-



ering Alma's mysterious past and her love affair with Ichimei Fukuda.

This beautiful romance is slowly revealed through flashbacks and letters. Allende cleverly shifts the narrative.

By Heather Doughty

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Pick-up points offered are Dudley, Shrewsbury, Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton.

*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.
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CONTACT THE CHRONICLE ON 01691 668094



Singer Libby Glikman will be performing in Oswestry



The Levellers will be playing at Shrewsbury Folk Festival

Lovers of music in for many tune-festivals

THERE is a whole host of singing talent ready to entertain music lovers from the Oswestry and Welshpool area over the coming months.

Popular singer Libby Glikman will be performing at a pre-Valentines Day event in Oswestry in February.

Libby will be singing ballads by Sam Smith, Adele, John Legend and other favourites as people sit down to a three course meal at Lepones Italian restaurant on February 4.

Tickets cost £28 and are available from Upstairs Downstairs in Leg Street or Lepones in Oswald Road, or call (01691) 658591.

If folk music rocks your boat, then an upcoming folk festival will offer various treats.

Rock

One of the biggest names in folk rock music will be headlining this year's Shrewsbury Folk Festival.

The Levellers will be taking to the stage at the Greenhouse West Mid Showground in Berwick Road over the August Bank Holiday.

Joining the band, who are fronted by Mark Chadwick, for the four-day festival will be Grammy award winning American singer-songwriter Rosanne Cash – the daughter of country singer Johnny Cash.

Other star names include Eliza Carthy and the Wayward Band, singer songwriter Tom Robinson, and world music star Raghu Dixit.

Others include Dervish & Guests, Show of Hands, Treacherous Orchestra, John McCusker Band, Andy Irvine, folk reggae group Edward II, Ross Ainslie and Jarlath Henderson.

Shooglenifty, Sheelanagig, The Urban Folk Quartet, Rob Heron and the Tea Pad Orchestra, Galleon Blast, The Boondock Hippy, Amadou Diagne & Modou Cissoko, Kit Hawes & Aaron Catlow, Dila V and The Oddbeats, Medicine Creek, Gnawa, Roaring Trowmen, and the Andy May Trio complete the line-up.

SPECIAL REPORT

By Sue Austin

As ever, the festival will feature a number of overseas artists including the return of American singer songwriter Richard Shindell and folk bluegrass band Barnstar!.

Young Canadian trio Ten Strings and a Goatskin, which took last year's festival by storm, will be returning.

Further names added to the bill will be revealed throughout the run-up to the festival.

The event takes place annually at the West Mid Showground over the Bank Holiday weekend and next year it will run from August 26 to 29.

It will be a celebratory year for the festival which is marking its 20th event in the county after it began life as Bridgnorth Folk Festival in 1997 before expanding to Shrewsbury in 2006.

Tickets have gone on sale and organisers have introduced a new tiered pricing system, with the first group of adult weekend tickets held to the same price as 2015.

Day tickets start from £35.

The festival has also released a promotional film, produced by Shrewsbury filmmaker Painted Life Productions, from the 2015 festival.

Special

Festival director Alan Surtees said: "2016 will be a very special year for us and we are aiming to recreate some of the best gigs we've ever had with our line-up to mark our 20th festival."

"We'll also be bringing one or two special treats to our audience with acts who've wowed the festival before." The festival has four music stages, a dance tent, more than 100 workshops, children and youth programmes, onsite camping, a craft fair, real ale, wine and cocktail bars, and a food village.

Tickets can be booked through www.shrewsburyfolkfestival.co.uk or direct at www.gigantic.com/shrewsbury-folk-festival-tickets



Rosanne Cash will be performing in Shropshire this year

Couple's winter wonderland is a worthy award winner

A TWINKLING winter wonderland kept neighbours and passers-by entertained and also scooped the top prize in a Christmas lights competition to find the best decorated home in Oswestry.

Diane and Keith Morris, of Windsor Road, Oswestry, were announced as winners of the town's annual contest after judges spent several days driving around the streets looking at displays and trying to decide who had the brightest and most attractive display.

"We did this display last year as well, but we've added to it this year," Mrs Morris, 55, said.

"It took all day on the first Sunday in December to put up."

"We love Christmas lights and the whole build-up to Christmas."

"Seeing the little kids going to the school stopping to look over the wall at the lights is lovely."

"We do it for other people – including our grandchildren – as much as for ourselves."



The couple were runners-up in last year's competition to find the town's best decorated home at Christmas.

"We didn't expect to win anything this year because we'd been runners-up last year," Mrs Morris said.

"It was quite a surprise."

Mr and Mrs Morris were presented with a £30 High Street voucher, sponsored by Andy Vaughan of Highline

Electrical for their efforts to bring some festive entertainment to the streets of Oswestry.

And Mrs Morris said that if possible they plan to use the prize to buy more lights.

"Normally we buy the lights half price in the sales," she said.

"This is the third year we've done this display and I expect we'll be buying more lights to add to it again next year."

Lights

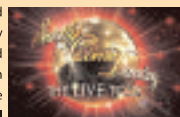
"We'd like to spend the prize on more lights, but we'll have to see which shops we can use it in."

The competition was run by the Oswestry in Bloom committee. Betty Gull, chairwoman of Oswestry in Bloom, said: "The standard of the displays has been extremely high and the committee are grateful to the local community for their hard work in making Oswestry a festive and welcoming town."

"Committee members were touring the town throughout December looking for the best decorated residential Christmas display."

Strictly Come Dancing Live at Barclaycard Arena Birmingham

It's time to dust off the glitterballs and polish the judges' paddles: the Strictly Come Dancing Live Tour is back and promises to be more thrilling than ever before! The fearsome threesome themselves, Len Goodman, Craig Revel Horwood and Bruno Tonioli will be reunited for the 2016 tour so waltz into the new year with a spring in your step and join us for one of the highlights of the showbiz calendar!



Many of your much-loved celebrity dancers and their professional partners will reunite on a supersized ballroom floor, competing for your votes in the hope of lifting the famous glitterball trophy.

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Pointless Celebrities

6.40pm
Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present an FA Cup edition of the unorthodox general knowledge quiz, as famous faces from the world of football try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public.



Insert Name Here

9.45pm
Comedy panel game in which host Sue Perkins asks two teams to decide who is the greatest of the many people who share a particular name. Captains Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe are joined by guests to answer questions, while anecdotes abound and irrelevant points are made.



Ninja Warrior UK

5pm
Competitors from across the nation test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge, hosted by Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. Those who make it to the end of the adrenaline-fuelled mission face one final task – scaling the heights of a tower named Mount Midoriyama.



Location, Location, Location

6.35pm
Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer help house-hunters looking for homes in Yorkshire. Kate works in international development and has spent years in Africa and elsewhere around the globe. Now she wants to put down roots and has chosen the picturesque Yorkshire Dales.



Jason Manford Live at the Manchester Apollo

10pm
The comedian performs before his home-town audience during his 2009 tour, featuring observational storytelling, anecdotes and teasing repartee with the audience. Among the topics he offers his thoughts on are the rules of driving and the lies dads tell.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
10.00	Saturday Kitchen Live. Matt Gillan and Paul Ainsworth join James Martin in the kitchen, while Peter Richards selects the best wines to accompany the dishes prepared in the studio.
11.30	James Martin: Home Comforts. The chef demonstrates recipes for novice cooks.
12.00	BBC News; Weather.
12.10	Football Focus. A look ahead to the FA Cup third-round fixtures.
1.00	Live Athletics. Coverage of the Great Edinburgh Cross Country from Holyrood Park, which features men's 9km and 4km races and the women's 6km event.
2.30	Live Darts: BDO World Championships. Coverage of the eighth day of the tournament, staged at the Lakeside Country Club at Frimley Green, featuring the opening men's semi-final.
4.30	Final Score. A round-up of this afternoon's football results.
5.20	Now You See It. New series. The best and worst of the magic world, narrated by Mel Giedroyc.
5.50	BBC News.
6.00	Midlands Today; Weather.
6.10	Celebrity Mastermind. CBeebies presenter Katy Ashworth, actor Thomas Turgoose, former jockey Mick Fitzgerald and radio presenter Shelagh Fogarty take to the black chair. Last in the series.
6.40	Pointless Celebrities. Eni Aluko, Guy Mowbray, Kevin Kilbane, Mark Chapman, Dan Walker, Mark Lawrenson, Rachel Yankey and Kelly Smith take part in an FA Cup edition of the quiz.
7.30	The Voice UK. New series. The BBC's singing contest returns, with new coaches Paloma Faith and Boy George joining Will.i.am and Ricky Wilson as the "blind auditions" stage gets under way.
9.05	Casualty. Dixie selflessly steps in to save Nikki's family from feeling the full force of her wrath, and Cal decides not to tell a troubled Ethan what he has learnt about his origins.
9.55	The National Lottery Live. Gabby Roslin hosts as the all-important winning numbers are revealed.
10.05	BBC News; Weather.
10.25	Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Gary Lineker presents action from the third-round fixtures; National Lottery Update.
12.00	FILM: The Peacemaker (1997). Two mismatched government operatives are forced to put aside their differences to find a stolen cache of nuclear warheads. Action thriller, with George Clooney and Nicole Kidman.
1.55	FILM: Halloween: Resurrection (2002). Teenagers spend a night in Michael Myers' childhood home and broadcast it live on the internet, unaware he is about to show up. Horror sequel, starring Brad Loree and Busta Rhymes.
3.20	Weather for the Week Ahead.
3.25	BBC News.

BBC2	
6.10	Race to Super Bowl 50. (R)
7.00	FILM: Jubal (1956). Western, starring Glenn Ford and Ernest Borgnine.
8.40	FILM: The Importance of Being Earnest (1952). Oscar Wilde comedy, starring Michael Redgrave.
10.10	Animal Park. (R)
11.10	Natural World. (R)
12.00	James Martin: Home Comforts. (R)
12.45	James Martin: Home Comforts. The chef cooks in his own kitchen. (R)
1.30	Homes Under the Hammer. Properties in London, Blaenau Gwent and Cumbria. (R)
2.15	Money for Nothing. Transforming a post-war table, a used suitcase and an old radio. (R)
3.00	Escape to the Country. A couple search for their first home in Gloucestershire. (R)
3.45	For What It's Worth. Antiques quiz show, hosted by Fern Britton. (R)
4.30	Live Darts: BDO World Championships. Coverage of the women's final.
6.00	Flog It! Paul Martin visits Loughborough's Town Hall and discovers the area's link with the popular Ladybird books. Valuable items up for auction include a concertina and a chocolate cup. (R)
6.30	World's Sneakiest Animals. Animals that use deceptive tactics to find food, from the manipulative mantis that looks like a flower to sea otters which demand ransoms after kidnapping each other's pups. (R)
7.30	Victorian Bakers. Four bakers experience what their profession was like during the Victorian era, working from a rural bake house kitted out exactly as it would have been in the 1830s. (R)
8.30	Dad's Army. Mainwaring and Wilson decide to recruit women into the platoon to take care of the less demanding tasks, but the captain loses his heart to an attractive widow. (R)
9.00	Live at the Apollo. The stand-up show returns with Alan Carr hosting from London's Hammersmith Apollo, performing and introducing guests Francesca Martinez and Nish Kumar. (R)
9.45	Insert Name Here. Comedy panel game in which Sue Perkins asks teams to decide who is the best of the many people who share a particular name. With Richard Osman and Josh Widdicombe. (R)
10.15	QI XL. Ciarad Lloyd, Dermot O'Leary and Phill Jupitus compete alongside resident panellist Alan Davies, as Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the quiz show.
11.00	Dragons' Den. An ex contestant makes a second attempt to impress the panel, and a former figure skater fails to inspire much confidence in Peter Jones. (R)
12.00	Darts: BDO World Championships.
12.50	FILM: Genghis Khan (1965). Historical adventure, starring Omar Sharif.
2.55	FILM: Captain Apache (1971). Western, starring Lee Van Cleef.
4.25	This Is BBC2.

ITV	
6.00	CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.05 Sooty 7.15 Super 4
7.30	Scrambled!: Scrambled! New series. Two hours of children's fun.
7.35	Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. Chaotic cartoon capers, voiced by Rowan Atkinson. (R)
7.50	Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. Cartoon about a mischievous youngster. (R)
8.10	Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. New series. Animated comedy.
8.30	Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. A central air-traffic control facility suddenly goes offline.
9.05	Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. Cat and mouse adventures. (R)
9.25	ITV News.
9.30	Murder, She Wrote. A weekend at a ski lodge turns to terror. (R)
10.25	The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. The host takes his successful talk show stateside.
11.20	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
12.20	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
12.25	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
1.30	Judge Rinder. Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R)
2.30	The Chase. Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)
3.30	Doc Martin. First episode of the comedy drama, starring Martin Clunes. (R)
4.30	The Martin Lewis Money Show. Money-saving tips to deal with Christmas overspend. (R)
5.00	Ninja Warrior UK. Obstacle-course challenge, with Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. (R)
6.00	ITV News Central; Weather.
6.15	ITV News and Weather.
6.30	New You've Been Framed! Harry Hill narrates more comical home videos, including a cat attacking a drone, and a pensioner who left a trail of destruction through a supermarket.
7.00	Ninja Warrior UK. Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara host the third heat, as competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge.
8.00	Take Me Out. A singing software engineer, a semi-pro footballer, a personal trainer and a world-class horse-rider seek the approval of Paddy McGuinness's 30 single women.
9.15	The Jonathan Ross Show. New series. The host returns with a new series for the new year, and is joined by actor Steve Carell, chef Gordon Ramsay and singer Ellie Goulding.
10.20	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.35	FILM: Sex and the City 2 (2010). Premiere. Fashion-conscious writer Carrie escapes the strain of married life with a disaster-strewn trip to Abu Dhabi. Comedy sequel, with Sarah Jessica Parker and Kristin Davis.
1.15	Jackpot247.
3.00	Murder, She Wrote. (R)
3.50	ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4	
6.15	The King of Queens. Doug and Carrie go to a baseball game. (R)
6.40	The King of Queens. Doug and Carrie throw a dinner party. (R)
7.05	The King of Queens. Doug thinks a waitress is attracted to him. (R)
7.30	Ironman France. Action from the triathlon event held in Nice.
8.00	Everybody Loves Raymond. Stefania arrives from Rome. (R)
8.30	Everybody Loves Raymond. Ray buys a new vacuum cleaner. (R)
9.00	The Morning Line. Rishi Persad and guests are at Kempton Park to preview today's races.
10.00	FILM: Von Ryan's Express (1965). Second World War action adventure, starring Frank Sinatra.
12.20	The World's Most Famous Train. The lives of staff and passengers on the Venice Simplon-Orient-Express. (R)
1.25	Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Kempton Park and Wincanton.
4.00	Come Dine with Me. Jackie Critten hosts the first dinner party in Grimsby. (R)
4.30	Come Dine with Me. Phil Cowper hosts the second dinner party in Grimsby. (R)
5.00	Come Dine with Me. Shanelle Cutsforth throws the third party in Grimsby. (R)
5.35	Come Dine with Me. Chris Wood hosts Grimsby's final party. (R)
6.05	Channel 4 News.
6.35	Location, Location, Location. Kirstie Allsopp and Phil Spencer are in Yorkshire, helping a woman moving from Africa to the Dales and a couple eager to buy their first home in Leeds. (R)
7.30	Britain's Wildest Weather 2015. Documentary featuring footage of unusual weather conditions in the past year shot by members of the public, including freak hailstorms, high winds, lightning strikes and a tornado. (R)
9.00	FILM: The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (2013). Premiere. The victor in a televised battle to the death returns to the arena to face other past champions. Sci-fi adventure sequel, starring Jennifer Lawrence and Liam Hemsworth.
11.50	FILM: The Day the Earth Stood Still (2008). An alien is sent to Earth on a mission to decide if the human race should be wiped out or allowed to continue existing. Sci-fi remake, starring Keanu Reeves and Jennifer Connelly.
1.45	Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Sienna tells Ben about Patrick's plan to die, while Darren turns up in a suit with a bunch of flowers and takes Nancy on a "first date". (R)
3.50	Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. The property expert helps Martin and Yvonne Davies to sell their large family home in Wincanton, Wokingham, after it has been on the market for 18 months (R)
4.45	Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. Kirstie Allsopp learns the art of willow-weaving. (R)
5.00	Deal or No Deal. Beat-the-banker game show. (R)
5.50	How I Met Your Mother. Ted is knocked over by a taxi. (R)

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake! Peppa Pig 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20 Bob the Builder 6.30 Ticky Toc 6.40 Zack and Quack 6.50 Milkshake! Monkey 6.55 Make Way for Noddy 7.10 Paw Patrol 7.25 Little Princess 7.35 Pip Ahoy! 7.50 Blaze and the Monster Machines 8.15 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.30 Wanda and the Alien 8.45 Toby's Travelling Circus
8.55	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R)
9.30	The Saturday Show. Topical show looking at the week's headlines.
11.30	Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)
12.25	Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Paul, Steve and Ben make a shocking discovery when they break into a home. (R)
1.25	FILM: Columbo: How to Dial a Murderer (1978). Crime drama, starring Peter Falk.
3.00	FILM: Columbo: Make Me a Perfect Murderer (1978). Crime drama, starring Peter Falk.
5.00	Cats Make You Laugh Out Loud. Compilation of cat-themed internet videos. (R)
6.00	5 News Weekend.
6.05	World War II in Colour. The effectiveness of the German blitzkrieg, a new form of warfare that took the Allies by surprise and gave Hitler the opportunity to seize Poland and France. (R)
7.05	World War II: Battlefield Recovery. New series. Excavation experts retrieve Second World War relics from the war-zones of the Eastern Front, telling the stories of fallen soldiers by examining their remains.
8.00	Chasing Monsters. New series. Documentary profiling dangerous underwater creatures, beginning as Caryl Chaquet is tasked with swabbing the teeth of some of the ocean's deadliest predators.
9.00	Celebrity Big Brother. The first eviction from the housemates' point of view, and the rest of the goings-on as the new showbiz pals continue to get along – or not, as the case may be.
10.00	Jason Manford Live at the Manchester Apollo. The comedian performs before his home-town audience during his 2009 tour, offering his thoughts on the rules of driving and the proper way to use a urinal. (R)
11.05	Lip Sync Battle: David Walliams v Alesha Dixon. Melanie Brown and Professor Green present the musical game show. In the first show, David Walliams and Alesha Dixon go head to head lip-synching to a hit song. (R)
11.40	Tattoo Disasters UK. A man who made his own tattoo gun using a toothbrush and a motor from the back of a TV hopes to get his DIY ink covered up so he can forget about his shady past.
12.05	SuperCasino.
3.10	Celebrity Big Brother. (R)
4.00	Celebrity Botched Up Bodies. (R)
4.50	Make It Big. (R)
5.15	Make It Big. (R)
5.45	Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.50	Angels of Jarm. (R)



Still Open All Hours
7.30pm
Granville arranges a double date with Madge and Mavis for himself and Gastric – but has to smarten his friend up first. Mrs Featherstone has her eye on a potential new husband, while Eric and Cyril need to come up with some clever marketing ideas when a mysterious new product arrives in the shop.



My Mediterranean with Adrian Chiles
9pm
Adrian gets in touch with his Catholic roots in Rome, riding a Vespa around the city with a priest and joining a crowd that has gathered to see the Pope in St Peter's Square. Adrian also attends his first confession in eight years with an 80-year-old cardinal.



Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera
6pm
Alastair Stewart presents a selection of eyewitness footage, and meets those who just happened to be there at the right time to record jaw-dropping moments. Featuring a ship's cook who survived for three days in a vessel sunk 30 metres below the surface.



Walking the Himalayas
8pm
Levison Wood joins pilgrims on their way to India's holiest city, where he meets a monk who claims to have gained special powers from eating human flesh. Levison then travels into Nepal, having to flee a town in the middle of the night when monsoon rains cause flooding.



The Bafta Britannia Awards 2015
10pm
Jack Whitehall hosts the LA-based ceremony which took place on Friday, October 30, 2015, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. The awards, which have been running since 1989, recognise outstanding contemporary film and TV talent.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
7.25	Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Gary Lineker presents action from the third-round fixtures, including Eastleigh v Bolton Wanderers, Doncaster Rovers v Stoke City and Arsenal v Sunderland. (R)
9.00	The Andrew Marr Show.
10.00	The Big Questions. New series. Ethical debates live from the University of Kent.
11.00	Sunday Politics West Midlands. Presented by Andrew Neil.
12.15	Bargain Hunt. Two teams compete in Norwich, Norfolk. (R)
1.00	BBC News. Weather.
1.15	Songs of Praise. Sally Magnusson meets a man who saved hundreds of people from flooding.
1.50	For What It's Worth. Antiques quiz show, hosted by Fern Britton. (R)
2.35	Great Barrier Reef with David Attenborough. The naturalist explores the shark-infested waters of Osprey Reef. (R)
3.35	Match of the Day Live: The FA Cup. Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester City (Kick-off 4.00pm). Gary Lineker presents all the coverage of the all-Premier League third-round tie at White Hart Lane.
6.05	BBC News.
6.20	Midlands Today; Weather.
6.30	Countryfile. Matt Baker learns about oilseed-rape farming in Hertfordshire with chef Jean-Christophe Novelli, and Adam Henson meets the winner of last year's Countryfile Farming Hero award.
7.30	Still Open All Hours. Granville arranges a double date with Madge and Mavis for himself and Gastric – but has to smarten his friend up first. Mrs Featherstone has her eye on a potential new husband.
8.00	Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents the second of two programmes from Bowood House, Wiltshire, where the experts examine a box engraved with a secret code and a Russian cigarette case.
9.00	War & Peace. Andrei and Nikolai prepare to go into battle with the French, but may be walking into a trap. Back in Russia, Pierre is finding married life with Helene harder than expected.
10.00	BBC News.
10.20	Midlands Today; Weather.
10.30	Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Action from the weekend's concluding third-round fixtures, including Oxford United v Swansea City, Carlisle United v Yeovil Town and Tottenham Hotspur v Leicester City.
11.25	FILM: Signs (2002). Crop circles on a former clergyman's land turn out to be warning signs of an imminent alien invasion. M Night Shyamalan's sci-fi thriller, starring Mel Gibson.
1.05	Snooker: The Masters – Extra. Shaun Murphy v Mark Allen. Hazel Irvine presents extended highlights of the first-round match on day one at Alexandra Palace in London, which was played over the best of 11 frames.
3.05	Weather for the Week Ahead.
3.10	BBC News.

BBC2	
6.30	FILM: City Beneath the Sea (1970). The crew of an underwater base has to deal with a plot to steal a valuable element and an imminent meteor strike. Sci-fi adventure, starring Stuart Whitman and Robert Wagner.
8.00	Monty Don's Italian Gardens. The horticulturist travels around Florence and the Tuscan countryside. (R)
9.00	Countryfile Compilation: Winter Wildlife. Ellie Harrison reports from the Cotswold Water Park. (R)
10.00	Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. Highlights of the series.
11.30	James Martin: Home Comforts. A glimpse of the chef off duty at home in his own kitchen. (R)
12.15	James Martin: Home Comforts. A glimpse of the chef off duty at home in his own kitchen. (R)
1.00	Live Snooker: The Masters. Shaun Murphy v Mark Allen. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the opening first-round match at Alexandra Palace in London, played over the best of 11 frames.
5.00	Ski Sunday. New series. Action from Adelboden and St Anton.
5.45	Live Darts: BDO World Championships. Colin Murray is joined by Bobby George as the prestigious tournament concludes on day nine with the men's final, staged at the Lakeside Country Club at Frimley Green.
8.00	Dragons' Den. Entrepreneurs pitch their money-making ideas to a panel of self-made millionaires. Presented by Evan Davis.
9.00	My Mediterranean with Adrian Chiles. Part two of two. Adrian gets in touch with his Catholic roots in Rome, riding a Vespa with a priest and joining a crowd that has gathered to see the Pope in St Peter's Square.
10.00	A Life on Screen – Stephen Fry. In this documentary, Stephen Fry tells the story behind his success, with contributions from Michael Sheen, Hugh Laurie and Alan Davies. (R)
11.00	Snooker: The Masters. Stuart Bingham v Ding Junhui. Hazel Irvine presents extended highlights of the first-round match on day one at Alexandra Palace, London, which was played over the best of 11 frames.
11.50	FILM: Disconnect (2012). The complex lives of several strangers are made far more problematic by the technology they use to communicate. Ensemble drama, starring Jason Bateman and Hope Davis.
1.40	Sign Zone: Countryfile Compilation: Winter Wildlife. Ellie Harrison reports from the Cotswold Water Park, where she helps with maintenance. Plus, a look back at the most memorable moments from the series featuring winter wildlife. (R)
2.35	Sign Zone: Holby City. While battling for a research grant at an outdoor pursuit centre, Arthur tries to win Morven's affections. Meanwhile, Zosia is offered a research internship in Edinburgh. (R)
3.35	This Is BBC2.

ITV	
6.00	CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge 6.25 Pat & Stan 6.35 Dino Dan 6.45 Dino Dan 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.05 Sooty 7.15 Super 4
7.30	Scrambled!: Scrambled! Two hours of children's fun.
7.35	Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. Chaotic cartoon capers, voiced by Rowan Atkinson. (R)
7.50	Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. Cartoon about a mischievous youngster. (R)
8.10	Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. Animated comedy.
8.30	Scrambled!: Bear Grylls' Survival School. New series. Children are taught to survive in the wild.
9.05	Scrambled!: The Tom & Jerry Show. Cat and mouse adventures. (R)
9.25	ITV News.
9.30	Murder, She Wrote. Jessica helps a friend arrested for murder. (R)
10.25	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
11.30	The Jeremy Kyle Show. Guests air their differences. (R)
12.35	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
12.50	The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)
1.50	Ninja Warrior UK. The third heat of the obstacle-course challenge gets under way. (R)
2.55	FILM: Thunderball (1965). James Bond sets out to foil a plot by crime syndicate Spectre to detonate two nuclear warheads off the US coast. Spy adventure, with Sean Connery, Claudine Auger and Adolfo Celi.
5.30	ITV News Central; Weather.
5.45	ITV News and Weather.
6.00	Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera. Part one of two. Alastair Stewart presents extraordinary eyewitness footage filmed by members of the public, including a ship's cook who survived for three days in a sunken vessel.
7.00	Beowulf: Return to the Shieldlands. A murderer is on the loose as tribal thanes gather to elect their new leader, and it falls to Beowulf to identify the culprit before he has a chance to kill again.
8.00	Endeavour. The detective discovers dark secrets in a family-run supermarket, as he investigates a possible connection to a fire that killed an artist with connections to political activists.
10.00	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.15	Joanna Lumley's Trans-Siberian Adventure. The actress takes in the varied sights of Mongolia during the second leg of her journey, visiting the nation's capital – Ulan Bator – and meeting renowned Mongolian throat-singers. (R)
11.15	Premiership Rugby Union. Action from the fixtures in the ninth round of the season, including Leicester Tigers v Northampton Saints, Harlequins v Saracens and Exeter Chiefs v Gloucester.
12.15	Jackpot247. Interactive gaming.
3.00	The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R)
3.40	ITV Nightscreen.
5.05	The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

Channel 4	
6.15	How I Met Your Mother. Ted puts peanuts in Stella's dinner, unaware she is allergic to them. (R)
6.40	The King of Queens. Doug invites Spence over for Thanksgiving. (R)
7.05	The King of Queens. The bowling team faces losing its sponsor. (R)
7.30	Everybody Loves Raymond. Marie and Debra fall out. (R)
7.55	Everybody Loves Raymond. Ray invests \$1,000 in a go-kart business. (R)
8.30	Frasier. The shrink puts his job on the line. (R)
9.00	Frasier. Unemployment takes its toll on Frasier. (R)
9.30	Sunday Brunch. With guests Ruby Wax, Samuel West, Dave Gorman and We Are the Ocean.
12.30	George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. A father and son building an ambitious cliff-top retreat – with no plans. (R)
1.30	Location, Location, Location. Homes in the commuter county of Kent. (R)
2.35	The Simpsons. Principal Skinner is exposed as an imposter. (R)
3.05	The Simpsons. Bart destroys Lisa's saxophone. (R)
3.30	The Simpsons. Homer buys a gun. (R)
4.00	FILM: 17 Again (2009). A man's wish to be a teenager again is granted, but his mature outlook on life puts him at odds with others when he returns to high school. Comedy, with Matthew Perry and Zac Efron.
6.00	Channel 4 News.
6.20	FILM: Ice Age: Continental Drift (2012). The prehistoric animals get stuck on a drifting iceberg, and try to find a way home. Animated comedy sequel, featuring the voices of Ray Romano, John Leguizamo and Denis Leary.
8.00	Walking the Himalayas. Levison Wood is reunited with a man who saved his life and joins pilgrims on their way to India's holiest city. He then travels into Nepal, encountering dangerous wildlife.
9.00	Deutschland 83. Moritz begins to enjoy his life in the West when he receives a new mission – to break into a general's hotel room and steal a top secret security report.
10.00	The 80s: Ten Years That Changed Britain. A look back at British society and pop culture in the 1980s, examining alternative comedy, football hooliganism and the divisive government of Margaret Thatcher.
11.30	FILM: Footloose (1984). A rebellious student from the city clashes with a preacher from a small religious community, who believes dancing is immoral. Drama, with Kevin Bacon, Lori Singer and John Lithgow.
1.25	SuperScrimpers: Winter Survival Tips. Seasonal cash-saving tips with Mrs Moneypenny. (R)
2.20	Come Dine with Me. (R)
2.45	Come Dine with Me. (R)
3.15	Come Dine with Me. (R)
3.40	Come Dine with Me. (R)
4.10	Come Dine with Me. (R)
4.35	Gadget Man. (R)
5.00	Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R)
5.10	Deal or No Deal. (R)

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake!: Peppa Pig 6.05 Bananas in Pyjamas 6.20 Angelina Ballerina 6.30 Bob the Builder 6.45 Tickyety Toc 6.55 Zack and Quack 7.05 Roobarb and Custard Too 7.15 Make Way for Noddy 7.25 Paw Patrol 7.40 Little Princess 7.55 Pip Ahoy! 8.10 Blaze and the Monster Machines 8.40 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 8.55 Wanda and the Alien 9.10 Jelly Jamm 9.20 Toby's Travelling Circus 9.30 LazyTown
9.55	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. The Turtles search for Splinter. (R)
10.30	Funniest Fails, Falls & Flops. A woman who practises yoga too close to the sea. (R)
10.55	Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Three High Court enforcement officers face their biggest eviction. (R)
11.55	Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Paul and Steve make an extraordinary discovery. (R)
12.50	FILM: Over Her Dead Body (2008). Supernatural romantic comedy, starring Eva Longoria and Paul Rudd.
2.35	FILM: The First Wives Club (1996). Revenge comedy, starring Goldie Hawn, Bette Midler and Diane Keaton.
4.35	FILM: Herbie: Fully Loaded (2005). Disney comedy sequel, starring Lindsay Lohan and Michael Keaton.
6.35	5 News Weekend.
6.40	FILM: Star Trek: Generations (1994). Starship captains Kirk and Picard battle a deranged scientist obsessed with finding a mysterious energy source. Sci-fi adventure sequel, with Patrick Stewart and William Shatner.
9.00	Celebrity Big Brother. The latest from the star-studded compound, as the housemates – minus the one unceremoniously booted out as a result of Friday's early eviction – begin their second weekend together.
10.00	The Bafta Britannia Awards 2015. Jack Whitehall hosts the LA-based ceremony recognising outstanding film and TV talent, with Meryl Streep, Sam Mendes and Harrison Ford among the honorees.
11.55	FILM: The River Wild (1994). A white-water rafting expert on holiday with her family is forced to help two fugitives make an escape down a raging river. Action thriller, starring Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon.
1.55	SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10	Inside the World's Most Dangerous Prison. Journalist Paul Connolly heads to Honduras to spend a week living as a prisoner inside Danil penitentiary, where the inmates make the rules and guards stay out of their way. (R)
4.00	House Doctor. A cluttered home in Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. (R)
4.25	Make It Big. The children begin their final week. (R)
4.50	Make It Big. The team races to sell more tickets. (R)
5.20	Make It Big. The big day arrives. (R)
5.45	Angels of Jarm. Otto climbs a tree. (R)
5.50	Angels of Jarm. (R)



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Women seeking men

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SAMANTHA, 42yrs, seeks gent for festive season, doesn't want to be alone again. Age/looks/unimportant. GSOH essential. Box: 4140774. Text only.

ALEXA 49 - slim, attractive, long-haired music loving female, with many interests including dining out, the arts, photography WLTm similar male. Text only to Mailbox no: 5345662

KATIE 35yrs, slender well educated brunette seeks no strings mutual pleasure with 40+ Must be discreet, married or single. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3003 Box 419673

CHLOE pretty single female 36yrs, dark hair/eyes, slim build, very lonely and looking for reliable discreet male for mutual companionship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420359

DISCREET man wanted by married lady for no strings fun. I'm called Sarah and am 37yrs. Pls call, ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3007 Box 418167

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3011 Box: 409715

JANE, young 41, very broadminded seeks chap any age for discreet no strings fun, any age, no time wasters ACA. Tel: 0906 515 3008 Box: 409715

ANN, 38, very attractive female, N/S, positive attitude to life, WLTm similar kind male with a lot of get up and go for romance and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420355

MAUREEN, discreet sensual lady, 42yrs seeks daytime fun at her home. ACA. Tel: 0906 515 015 Box: 405297

YVONNE, single mum, happy with life, but would like to meet someone to share fun times with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420269

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel: 0906 515 3019 Box: 413399

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JACKIE lonely and looking for male company, 48-65. Need a bit of love and affection? Then I'm your girl, call me. Tel: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418169

FELICITY, 38yrs, attractive, petite but shapely lady seeks gent for indoor activities! Age/looks/looks/similar unimportant but must be discreet and non demanding. Tel: 0906 515 3023 Box 420235

SARAH, curvaceous brunette, 35, passionate nature, solvent, OHAC, WLTm dating again, looking for male to take me out. Looks/Age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420207

LOUISE, pretty hairdresser, works long hours, finds it hard to meet a boyfriend, 34yrs, own flat. Text only to Mailbox no: 4192572

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. Tel: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418627

MAGGIE, 72 yrs young, good sense of humour, well presented, WLTm kind, sincere chap to share coffee and a chat. Text only to Mailbox no: 5310404

LOUISE 35, dark hair, blue eyes, attractive ex air hostess, looking for fun times with older male for romantic nights in and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420043

JAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing, friendly, WLTm passionate guy to share good wine, good conversation, flirting and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418609

BLACK lady seeks white male over 60, any location, for friendship and hopefully a lot more. Text only to Mailbox no: 4256384

CHARLENE, 24, petite curly young blonde seeks similar sexy fun loving guy for lots of fun and loving ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419597

39yr old independent single Mom, knows the benefit of having a good man in the picture. Text only to Mailbox no: 5084796

FRANCES, 45, busty female, loves nights in/out, seeking uncomplicated male who can occupy my free time for quality companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420003

FEMALE, seeks fun loving male who likes a drink and a laugh, to enjoy erotic experiences with a curly brunette. Discretion guaranteed. Text only to Mailbox no: 5079311

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

JOANNA, 36, petite, auburn haired female, lovely figure seeks loving older male for fun nights out and cosy nights in. Maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419595

SHARON 32, attractive black single mum of one, very tactile and passionate, WLTm male 45-65yrs for fun meets. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419579

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419417

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse riding, keep fit, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, no drinker, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415211

CURVY, farm girl at heart, 32, 5ft 10, single mum, caring, kind, shy, likes walks, looking WLTm tactile male farmer for LTR. Text only to Mailbox no: 5067001

FEMALE medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415429

WIDOW 50, blonde hair, GSOH, 5ft 5ins, slim, seeks male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415767

MARIE, 43, fun blue-eyed brunette, fit and active, seeks similar male to have a laugh with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419417

FEMALE 50's, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 415871

BLUE eyed female, blonde hair, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-65. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416989

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, widow, 50's, likes walks, sight seeing, theatre, meals out seeks genuine, professional gent, 5ft 9ins plus to make life more enjoyable. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418615

MARY, pretty, friendly, lots of fun, lives in Kidderminster, loves the theatre, opera, ballet, WLTm a lovely, charming, funny, genuine guy, 30s, to settle down with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419883

LOU, 45, lives in Shrewsbury, WLTm a lady between 42-49 with blue eyes, must be kind, caring and funny to mend my broken heart, someone who likes to curl up on the sofa for cozy nights in. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419853

FREYA 24yr old single mum, looking for male for free time frolics, call me if you're interested, it could be fun! Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419851

SARAH 38, slim, nice looking, sensual, tactile, no ties, WLTm kind, loving male to enjoy affectionate relationship. Any age/looks. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419821

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414773

JULIA 47, looking for genuine, reasonably attractive male friend, may lead to more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419695

LADY Penelope seeks her very own Parker (47-58) to go on a voyage of discovery and romance. Text only to Mailbox no: 4550237

HEATHER, well travelled, solvent brunette looking to share a large glass of wine and whatever follows with affectionate man friend. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419031

PAULINE, 49yrs, very attractive, curvy divorcee, affectionate and fun, seeks laid back sincere male for uncomplicated loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418925

LADY young at heart, nice eyes, seeks man 42-52 with good sense of humour. Text only to Mailbox no: 4881572

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall slim and attractive, looking for fun times, maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418845

LOOKING for the right chemistry with country loving gent who like me is looking for some extra fun in their life. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418843

JIAN 35yr old blue eyed blonde, outgoing, friendly, WLTm passionate guy to share good wine, good conversation, flirting and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418609

SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel, wining/dining, WLTm genuine male for mutual companionship. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418587

BROKEN hearted lady 39 seeks loving male to mend heart age 39/40. Text only to Mailbox no: 4899116

KAY, very young 45, fit and active, no ties, seeks similar male at heart, fun times for meets. Age/status/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418577

VIVACIOUS strawberry blonde who knows just what she wants, looking for caring male for spontaneous fun relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418445

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418369

JO 55, curly redhead, loves eating out, travels, travel, looking for middle-aged prince charming to sweep me off my feet. Text only to Mailbox no: 4646905

GENUINE lady looking for genuine male, age 58-60, for friendship and to have a laugh with. So if that's you would love to hear from you. Text only to Mailbox no: 4537136

PAT 66, attractive, N/S, likes reading, nights out, seeks gent for friendship, days out and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418277

AMANDA, 36, tall, slim, busty brunette seeks man, any age, any area, for discreet daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418117

CAROL Ann, sensitive slim brunette very romantic seeks tall handsome male for fun, friendship and lots of TLC. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419385

KIRSTEN, 36, attractive, blonde and very bored, seeking open-minded decent male for friendship, 40-50yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419383

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirty, seeks similar fun loving male for an uncomplicated no strings relationship. Age/looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 416601

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409109

DIVORCED female, attractive, sensual by nature, OHAC, bored with own company, looking to make life a little more exciting with likeminded man. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419219

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, loving and honest, many interests, seeks genuine male to share lonely evenings with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417211

JOYCE, affectionate sensitive widow, bit of a romantic, seeks loving male for lots of TLC. Looks unimportant. It's what's in the heart that matters. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419143

DEBBIE, 29, looking for mature professional fun guy, 40-50 to spend good times with. Call me, you have nothing to lose. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419075

JULES, sensitive tactile, curvy brunette, hopeless romantic, seeks tall, loving male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419033

VIRGINIA, outgoing social female, 24, tall slim and attractive, looking for fun times, maybe more. Can accommodate/travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418845

HEATHER, well travelled, solvent brunette looking to share a large glass of wine and whatever follows with affectionate man friend. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419031

PAULINE, 49yrs, very attractive, curvy divorcee, affectionate and fun, seeks laid back sincere male for uncomplicated loving relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418925

HEATHER, 34, single very attractive brunette, sensual and interesting, looking to add to life's experiences and adventures with professional male. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418193

JIAN, 47, once bitten twice shy! Looking for non complicated fun times. Attractive, discreet, OHAC, you won't be disappointed. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418089

EMMA, 43, easygoing female looking to broaden her horizons, WLTm similar male for romantic liaisons. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418009

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414773

WENDY, 40, slim, fit, bubbly female looking to meet a tall, slim, fit, mature male who thinks he can keep up. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418369

EILEEN, slim green eyed brunette likes meals out and cosy nights in, seeks tall male who would make her laugh and brighten up. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418347

CAROL 49, attractive, green eyed blonde, honest warm hearted, n/s with GSOH likes cinema, music, walking, meals out and travel seeking similar male. Text only to Mailbox no: 4283683

FEMALE, 50, short blond hair, blue eyes, 5ft 10, slim build, looking for a man 50- 55 with salt and pepper hair and GSOH. Text only to Mailbox no: 4435776

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.55 per minute plus your phone company's access charge. Texts cost £1.50 per message received.

TALL, dark, slim, attractive guy, 48, seeks attractive female for no strings fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 299904

ATTRACTIVE male, late 40s, seeks attractive female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 311713

TALL, dark, attractive guy 50, seeks attractive, tactile female for fun, excitement and lots of attention. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 314219

MALE, 70, retired from NHS, seeking a lady for friendship and companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420147

PHILLIP, 29 years old, 5ft 11ins, stocky build, green eyes, friendly, GSOH, seeks genuine friendly n/s female for friendship, possible relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 5335424

WAYNE, 40, cheeky, good career, likes gym. Looking for a lady who likes stimulating conversation and times. Tel No: 0906 515 4345 Box No: 419829

MICHAEL, school teacher, very shy and lonely, 42yrs, own home, car, seeks genuine caring lady. Text only to Mailbox no: 415651

DARREN, 44, slim build, dark brown hair, green eyes, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418809

HAPPY man 59 looking for a lady to share the good times. I enjoy cinema, eating out, pubs and holidays in hot places. Text only to mailbox no: 4618385

LOVELY and broken male seeks female to show me what love is. Text only to mailbox no: 5345568

VERY useful, attractive 58 yr old, GSOH, six foot tall, nice build, n/s, genuine, tactile, fit and sporty, looking for a woman for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420135

COLIN 61, lorry driver, 5'10", blue eyes, kind hearted, romantic, hobbies include growing fuchsia for showing and I have a vintage tractor that I play with from time to time. Looking for similar who's up for a lot of fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418463

HANDSOME guy, 49, seeks attractive, younger female for fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 316752

TALL dark, good looking male, 53, seeks attractive female for daytime fun and exciting times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 393380

ATTRACTIVE male, 54, seeks attractive female for daytime fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407915

What's caught your eye?

Let them know you might be interested by sending them a WINK

Simply Text: 80098

Text only to Mailbox no: 4192572

CARING male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411461

ADVENTUROUS 35yr old, slim, dark hair, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417235

TALL attractive male, 55, would like to meet older mature women 60 to 75 for close discreet fun. You only live once. Text only to Mailbox no: 4347071

I am an easygoing guy looking for a female 55-66 for a meaningful relationship. I am very single and honest. Text only to Mailbox no: 5326234

VERY useful, attractive 58 yr old, GSOH, six foot tall, nice build, n/s, genuine, tactile, fit and sporty, looking for a woman for nights in and out. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 420135

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419283

STEVE 39, 5ft 9ins, medium build, likes walking, fit, slimish, good company & fun single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 396709

PHIL 55, divorced, 5ft 10ins, slim, OHAC, seeks female, 18 plus for discreet adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401875

GENUINE male, 58, OHAC, looking for fun lady for no strings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 417601

PHIL 57, OHAC, discreet, seeks no strings fun with younger female. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 414991

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TIM, easygoing honest male, discreet, uninhibited, seeks similar non-conformist averagely attractive, N/S female up to 65. Notts. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 375065

SUBMISSIVE 44year old WLTm dominant female 25-30 years who enjoys role play with friendship and maybe possible relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 5084114

MATURE male, 50, medium-build, varied interests, seeks true Christian female, 35-45, who enjoys evenings in and dining out, for friendship or possibly more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419283

MARK 40, 5ft 9ins, brown hair/eyes, attractive, good looking, OHAC/business, likes walks, day trips, cinema, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 348239

PROFESSIONAL male, 41, own business, likes to enjoy life, clubs, pubs, cinema, gym, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 360283

MALE 45yrs old, self-employed motor trader/mechanic, medium build, green eyes, average looks. I am a nice genuine and honest person looking for similar lady to share a honest permanent relationship and happy times. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 418709

STEVE 39, 5ft 9ins, medium build, likes walks, seeks female, slim-medium build, single mum welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 396709

6FT well built guy, nicely groomed looking for fun intimate nights or day with slim/medium build attractive lady 35-55. Text only to Mailbox no: 5132460

ALAN, 56 year old builder, muscular build, five foot ten, fit, likes the gym, pubs, clubs and days out, seeks female with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 419975

ATTRACTIVE, fit, sporty, tactile, youthful black male seek relationship with lady. N/S. Text only to Mailbox no: 4851641

WIDOWER, quiet, easygoing, slim, 5ft 7 tall, smart, varied interests, seeks slimish lady, 50 to 65 yrs for caring relationship. Text only to Mailbox no: 4906469

Men seeking men

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deaths**BROMLEY****Peter David**

Tragically passed away December 9, 2015, aged 44 years.

Beloved Husband of the late Sally, much loved Father of Sienna, Son of Betty and the late Ken, Brother of Philip and Brother-in-law of Alma.

Funeral Service to be held at Emstrey Crematorium, Shrewsbury on Wednesday January 13, 2016 at 2.45pm.

Family flowers only, donations if desired in memory of Peter will be put in trust for Sienna aged 6 years, who has sadly lost her Mother and Father in the last twelve months.

All inquiries please to

David Davies and Sons

Funeral Directors

01691 653116.

EVANS**Christine Esther**

Of Nesscliffe. Devoted Mum of Sue and Steve, cherished Nanny to Tim and Katie, Aimee and Andrew and a much loved Great-Granny. Passed away peacefully in hospital on December 24, 2015, aged 84 years.

Funeral Service will take place at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Friday, January 15, 2016, at 1.15pm.

Family flowers only please however all kind donations will support the work of The Alzheimer's Society and Ward 9 at The Princess Royal Hospital.

All inquiries please to

AUSREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
Frankwell Island,
Shrewsbury.
01743 368999

MARTIN**John Herbert**

Passed away peacefully at home on January 3, 2016, aged 90 years.

Dearly loved Husband of Alwena, much loved Father, Grandfather and Great-Grandfather.

Funeral Service to be held at Pantrebychan Crematorium, Wrexham, on Wednesday, January 13, 2016, at 10.30am, followed by a Thanksgiving Service in Christ Church, Oswestry, at 12 noon.

Family flowers only please.

Donations if desired to Christ Church URC / PCW.

Inquires to

W.E. PRICE

Funeral Directors

Oak Wood,

Salop Road,

Oswestry.

SY11 2RN.

Tel: 01691 652 995.

MASON**Wendy**

Of Chirbury Gate, passed away at home unexpectedly. Beloved Wife of the late Keith, loving and much loved Mother of Helen and Steven, their Families and a cherished Sister.

We shall announce the Funeral details once they are finalised.

All inquiries please to

AUSREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
The Elms
Near Welshpool
01938 555099

MORRIS**Brian**

Of Shrewsbury. Passed away peacefully while in hospital on December 25, 2015, aged 67 years.

Funeral Service will be held at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 5pm.

Flowers welcome.

All inquiries please to

AUSREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
Frankwell Island,
Shrewsbury.
01743 368999

WEBB**Clodagh Elizabeth**

Of Shrewsbury. Cherished Daughter of David and Sian, adored little Sister to William. Fell asleep on December 18, 2015, aged 9 months.

A Service celebrating Clodagh's short life will be held at Shrewsbury Crematorium on Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 11.30am.

Family flowers only please, however all kind donations will support The Lullaby Trust.

All inquiries please to

AUSREY KIRKHAM
Funeral Directors,
Frankwell Island,
Shrewsbury.
01743 368999

WHITTINGHAM**Dr. David**

Beloved Husband of Pru, Father to Jane, Rachel and Gill and a cherished Grandfather, passed away at his Shrewsbury home on January 2, 2016.

The Funeral Service will take place in St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, at 11.45am, followed by Interment in the Emstrey New Burial Ground on London Road, Shrewsbury.

Family flowers only, however all donations will be divided between St Chad's Church and The Hospice at Home fund.

All inquiries please to

AUSREY KIRKHAM
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01743 368999



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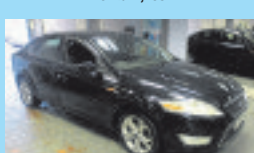
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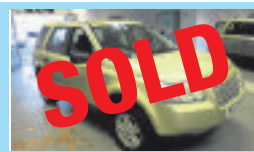
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1 Owner, Bright Yellow Manual,
12,000 miles, FSH £8999



2010 10 RENAULT GRANDE SCENIC
1.5 DCi 7 Seater, Manual, Metallic
Red, 28,000 miles, FSH £6,999



2008 08 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi SE Estate,
Red Metallic, 6 Speed Manual, 47,000 miles,
Privacy Glass, Roof Rails, 47,000 miles £10,499



2010 60 LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.2 TD4
XS New Shape Auto. Metallic Grey, Sat Nav,
Heated Seats, 51,000 miles, FSH £15,999



2012 62 MINI COUNTRYMAN COOPER S
2.0 Diesel All 4 5-door. Green, 1 Owner,
FSH, 19,900 MILES £14,499



2012 12 LAND ROVER FREELANDER
2.2 TD4 GS Manual. Metallic Grey,
48,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH £15,499



2012 12 HONDA CRV 2.0 SE
Plus 4x4 Manual. Metallic Bronze,
9,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH
£13,999



2011 11 NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC
2.0 DCi 4x4 Manual. Metallic Gold,
Sat Nav, Sunroof, 1 Owner, 23,000
miles £13,999



Onstar demos working well for Arthurs

Vauxhall's development of OnStar has had one of the biggest impacts of any new technology, according to award-winning dealer Arthurs of Oswestry and Newtown.

The sales teams at both branches have been busy giving demonstrations of the many benefits of OnStar which was recently introduced into the UK.

Matt Hine, sales manager at Arthurs of Oswestry said: "The message is that OnStar will make driving safer as well as offering new innovations in infotainment and telematics. "And best of all the system is free to customers for the first year of ownership."



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Customers enquiring about the new British built Astra are particularly showing interest in OnStar because the all-new model is the first to have the package which includes a high speed 4G LTE mobile network, emergency response notification and stolen vehicle recovery technology.

Matt said: "OnStar is the leading provider of connected safety and security solutions, value added mobility services and advanced information technology in the automotive industry today.

"With OnStar, Vauxhall is bringing the latest connectivity technology to a wider audience and smartphone users are able to connect to their vehicle remotely with the OnStar smartphone app.

"OnStar is able to assist vehicle owners and police if a vehicle with the system is stolen. A remote ignition block allows OnStar to send a remote signal to the vehicle that blocks the engine from starting once it has been stolen.

"The new system also includes roadside assistance services which means being stranded with a flat tyre or an empty fuel tank is very much a thing of the past."

Matt added: "Subscribers are in complete control of



their data and the services they receive. Before the services are activated they are able to choose whether they want to reveal their current location."

Pictured: Will Edwards, a member of the Arthurs Vauxhall sales team, presses the blue icon button to connect to OnStar's services.

ROGER EATON CARS

2007 07	FORD FOCUS CC 3 MET BLUE, LEATHER, 37,000 MILES	£6,995
2006 06	MINI COOPER CAB MET BLUE, BLUE LEATHER, A/C, ALLOYS	£5,750
2012 12	FIAT 500 LOUNGE IN WHITE 12000 MILES	£5,750
2004 04	FORD STREET KA IN RED, LEATHER, ALLOYS	£2,495
2005 55	MERCEDES E320 CDI IN SILVER, ACC, LEATHER, FSH	£5,995
2007 57	PEUGEOT 207 GT 3DR IN RED, PAN ROOF, 56,000 MILES	£3,995
2006 06	LANDROVER FREELANDER TD4 AUTO IN SILVER, LEATHER TRIM, A/C, ALLOYS	£4,995
2007 57	NISSAN 2.5 CDI PATHFINDER ADVENTURA IN SILVER, BLACK LEATHER, A/C, ALLOYS, REAR CAMERA, TOW BAR, SAT NAV, BLUE TOOTH	£8,495
2005 05	TOYOTA COROLLA 1.4 COLOUR COLLECTION, S/H	£2,250
2009 59	TOYOTA YARIS 1.4 D-4D TR 38,500 MILES, IN RED, SERVICE HISTORY	£6,250
2011 61	SKODA OCTAVIA DIESEL ESTATE 1.6 SE IN SILVER, 130,000 MILES	£4,495
2010 10	PEUGEOT 207 HDI SPORT 1.6 IN BLACK, ALLOYS, AIR/CON	£3,995
2009 59	CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.4 VTR+ IN MET BLUE 48000 MILES, ALLOYS, AIR/CON	£3,995
2004 54	MERCEDES S CLAS 320D, AUTO SAT NAV, MET BLUE	£3,995
2003 03	TOYOTA MR2 1.8 IN MET BLUE, ALLOYS, 93,000 MILES	£2,250
2011 11	RANGE ROVER SPORT 30TD HSE IN BLACK	£24,750
2011 61	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 TDI VAN IN SILVER, 70,000 MILES	£3,995
2011 11	SKODA FABIA 1.6 TDI CR 5DR INMET GREY, AIR/CON, 30,000 MILES	£6,750
2011 11	AUDI A6 2.0 SLINE 170 BHP GREY MET PAINT BLACK LEATHER 70000 MILES 19 INCH ALLOYS	£13,495
2000 X	RANGE ROVER SE50 AUTO MET BLUE TOW BAR, ALLOYS, AIR CON	£3,995
2007 57	MINI ONE 1.4 ALLOYS AIR CON, 63000 MILES	£4,995
2011	BESSACARR E436 5 BERTH MOTOR HOME IN WHITE 39000MILES	£27,500
2007 07	AUDI A3 SE 1.6 AUTO, BLUE MET BLUE LEATHER ACC SERVICE HISTORY	£4,495
2008 08	FORD KA 1.3 IN BLACK 37000 MILES	£2,250

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52	JAGUAR S TYPE AUTO Leather, Low Miles
V	JAGUAR X80 Low Mileage, Silver, MUST BE SEEN
54	JAGUAR X TYPE 2.5 V6, Auto, BRG, 66,000 Miles, stunning car
CAR OF THE WEEK	
57	RENAULT CLIO SPORT 2.0 Black, 66,000 miles, Stunning Car
14	VAUXHALL CORSA EXCITE Blue, 7000 miles
60	FORD GRAND C-MAX TITANIUM 2.0 TDCI Auto, Blue, 56k, AUTOMATIC
11	SEAT EXEO 2.0TDI CRS (140), 5 speed, full history
60	VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIVE 1.8 Silver, 24k, Lady Owner
09	VAUXHALL INSIGNA 2.0 CDTI Black, High Mileage
09	FIAT BRAVO 1.4 Dynamic, 5 door, Silver, Alloys
58	PEUGEOT 207 SHD 1.6 (90), Red, low mileage, full history
08	FORD FIESTA ZETEC Climate, 3 door, bronze metallic
08	FORD FIESTA 1.4 Ghia, 5 door, blue
08	FORD KA, blue, 68,000 miles
57	MINI COOPER 1.6, White, 1 Lady Owner
56 (07)	MERCEDES A180 CDI CLASSIC SE Diesel, Silver

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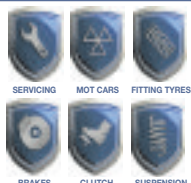
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57	FORD FOCUS ST-2, ORANGE, SERVICE HISTORY 48K	£8,695	53	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 DESIGN 5 DOOR, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 68K	£1,650
11	FORD MONDEO EDGE TDCI EST. SILVER, FULL SERV. HIST., ONE PREV. OWNER 64K	£7,850	TO CLEAR		
11	VW POLO SEL 1.6i 90 1.6i 5 DOOR, SILVER, AC, ONE OWNER, ALLOY WHEELS, F.S.H 55K £30 ROAD TAX	£7,475	05	SEAT Ibiza 1.4 3 DOOR, RED, POWER STEERING, SERVICE HISTORY 117K	£995
09	VW GOLF SE TdI, SILVER, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERVICE HISTORY 55K	£6,495	54	VAUXHALL ASTRA CLUB CDTI 133K	£1,495
12	SUZUKI SPLASH SZ4, BLUE, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER £30 ROAD TAX 10K	£6,495	COMMERCIALS PLUS VAT		
60	FIAT 500 LOUNGE, GREY, SERVICE HISTORY, £30 ROAD TAX 25K	£5,995	07	TOYOTA HILUX HL20-4D 4X4 D/C, WHITE, ONE OWNER, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 30K	£8,750
11	FORD FIESTA 1.4 TITANIUM TDCI, BLACK 52K	£6,975	60	MERCEDES SPRINTER CDO LWB, WHITE 125K	£7,995
60	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.7 CDTI SE ECO FLEX 1300PS, RED, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, £30 ROAD TAX 37K	£5,795	10	TRANSIT T280 SWB ST2, ROOF, WHITE, SERVICE HISTORY 48K	£7,540
12	NISSAN MICRA AGENA 1.2, 5 DOOR, MET. RED, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, £30 ROAD TAX 42K	£5,495	10	TRANSIT T280, WHITE, AIR CON, SLIDING DOOR, SERVICE HISTORY 50K	£7,290
60	PEUGEOT 207 S 1.4, 5 DOOR, BLACK, AIR CON, ELEC. WINDOWS, SERVICE HIST 36K	£4,795	60	VOLKSWAGEN CADDY C20 TDI SWB, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 34K	£5,995
59	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 EXTREME 3 DOOR, MET. BLUE, ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HISTORY 38K	£4,290	60	VAUXHALL ASTRA CDTI CLUB 1.9, WHITE 6 SPEED, AIR CON, ONE OWNER, F.S.H 28K	£5,450
09	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 AGENA, BEIGE, AIR CON, CRUISE CONTROL, ALLOY WHEELS, F.S.H 53K	£4,195	10	VW CADDY C20 PLUS SDI, BLUE, AIR CON, ELEC. WIND, TWIN SIDE DOORS, F.S.H. 35K	£5,175
57	PEUGEOT 207 SPORT CC HDI 1.6, GREY, SERVICE HISTORY 64K	£3,995	10	FORD TRANSIT 350 LWB CREW CAB TIPPER, WHITE 136K	£4,995
60	PEUGEOT 207 SPORT COUPE, GREY 64K	£3,995	10	VW CADDY C20 PLUS SDI, BLUE 44K	£4,850
09	PEUG 207 WENIE 1.4 5 DR, BLUE, CD, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HIST. 48K	£3,995	60	PEUGEOT PARTNER HDI SE, 3 SEATER, WHITE, ONE OWNER, SERVICE HISTORY 47K	£4,695
60	CITROEN C3 EXECUTIVE HDI, GREY, AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HIST. £30 ROAD TAX 48K	£3,895	11	PEUGEOT BIPPER HDI PROFESSIONAL, SIDE DOOR, WHITE, CENTRAL LOCKING, 57K AIR CONDITIONING, SERVICE HISTORY	£4,195
60	NISSAN P100 IN-TEC, GREY, SERVICE HISTORY £20 ROAD TAX 48K	£3,650	60	PEUGEOT PARTNER HDI, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, SERVICE HISTORY 67K	£4,195
60	RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 1.2 16V, BLACK, ALLOYS, SERVICE HISTORY 50K	£3,495	60	VAUXHALL ASTRA CDTI 1.7 CLUB, WHITE, ONE OWNER, SERVICE HISTORY 81K	£3,995
60	SKODA FABIA ELEGANCE TDI, SILVER 123K	£2,600	10	PEUGEOT PARTNER HDI S, WHITE, SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER 72K	£3,875
60	FIAT GRANDE PUNTO ACTIVE TURBO DIESEL 1.3, GREY, FULL SERV. HIST., £30 ROAD TAX 64K	£2,395	60	CITROEN BERLINGO BOXER SWB 1.6 HDI, BLUE, ONE OWNER, SERVICE HISTORY 64K	£2,600
54	VAUXHALL ASTRA ENJOY CDTI, BLUE, SERVICE HISTORY 74K	£2,150	PART EX AND FINANCE AVAILABLE SUBJECT TO STATUS WE BUY CARS & VANS FOR CASH		
60	FORD KA, SILVER, 2 OWNERS, LOW MILEAGE 22K	£1,795			

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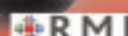
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Diesel Selection	
14 (14)	NEW PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDI ACTIVE 5-dr 7,000 miles
14 (14)	KIA CEED 3 1.6 CRDI 5dr, Track Red, as new
14 (64)	RENAULT CAPTUR - 15 Dci DYNAMIQUE 7,000 MILES
13 (13)	KIA RIO 1.4 Ecodynamic 2. Dr. Electric blue
13 (62)	NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 Dci Acenta, Ruby Red, 18,000 miles
13 (13)	KIA CEED 2 CRDI Infra Red, 18,000 miles
12 (62)	FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI ZETEC Phantom Black
11 (61)	KIA YENGA 2 1.4 CRDI Blue
12 (62)	PEUGEOT 5008 1.6 HDI ACTIVE Silver
11 (11)	VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTI SRI 6,000 miles, £30 Road Tax
10 (10)	VOLVO V60 1.6D DRIVE-S-ESTATE, black
10 (10)	RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 Dci EXPRESSION Silver
09 (09)	PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDI Estate, Silver
09 (09)	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.7 CDTI DESIGN 5-dr Silver
08 (08)	VOLKSWAGEN JETTA 2.0 TDI SPORT, Lovely Condition
08 (08)	FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI ZETEC, Metallic Green
08 (08)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDI MATCH, Reflex Silver
07 (57)	MINI COOPER 1.6 D Chili Red / Chequered Red
07 (07)	VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDI SPORT, Shadow Blue
07 (07)	VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN 1.9 Tdi S, Shadow Blue, 7 Seats
05 (55)	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.9 CDTI DESIGN, Black
Petrol Selection	
14 (14)	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SXI 5 Dr, Asteroid grey
13 (63)	PEUGEOT 107 1.0 ACTIVE 3-dr, red
13 (13)	KIA RIO 2 1.4 in Blaze Red
13 (13)	KIA PICANTO 2 5-dr, Galaxy Black
13 (13)	KIA PICANTO 1.0 CITY 3-dr, Blaze Red, 9,000 miles
12 (12)	SUZUKI SWIFT 1.2 SZ4 Red 8,000 miles
12 (12)	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 5-dr, DYNAMIQUE Tom Tom, Silver
11 (11)	HONDA JAZZ 1.4 ES 5-dr, Grey, 3,700 miles
10 (10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 Turbo, Black
10 (10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRI Technical Grey
10 (10)	NEW RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE Tom Tom, 6,000 miles
10 (10)	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRI 5dr Waterwood Blue
09 (59)	MINI COOPER 1.6 3-dr, Sparkling Silver/Black
09 (59)	HYUNDAI I10 1.1 ES, 5-dr Red, 16,000 miles
09 (09)	MINI COOPER 1.6 Convertible, Blue
07 (07)	FORD KA 70 STYLE Silver
07 (07)	MINI ONE 1.4 3dr, Lightning Blue
06 (56)	PEUGEOT 207 SE 16v 5-dr, Silver Grey 9,000 miles
05 (55)	RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE 5-dr in Flame Red
05 (05)	FORD KA COLLECTION Blue
04 (04)	AUDI A3 2.0 FSI SPORT Red
4x4 Selection	
12 (62)	SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 SZ4, Kashmir Blue
10 (10)	KIA SPORTAGE 2.0CRDI SX 4WD Phantom Black
10 (60)	SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI FIRST EDITION Techno Orange
08 (08)	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 GS, Silver
07 (57)	SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 VTT+ Blue
03 (03)	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 TD4 SERENGETI, Green
Automatics	
15 (15)	HONDA JAZZ 1.4i V-TEC EX, As new
11 (11)	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CLUB, Silver Lightning



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Nissan used car event

The Greenhous Nissan dealerships on Featherbed Lane in Shrewsbury and Stafford Park 1 in Telford, have been busy with customer visits for their 'January Used Car Event'. The popular brand has its biggest ever sale of nearly new and used cars running until January 17, 2016.

There are great reductions on approved used cars so that the customer can buy with confidence.

The range of used Nissan cars on offer can be viewed by visiting the Greenhous Nissan website on www.greenhousnissan.co.uk

Nissan cars are available to suit most preferences. Starting in the smaller vehicle range is the Micra 1.2 hatchback, an agile car with smooth navigation, spacious interior and a new shape which all combine to provide you with everything you need for a hassle-free and enjoyable drive. With lower road tax, improved fuel-efficiency and even cheaper insurance.

Also the Note MPV with easy to use, yet advanced technology that makes every journey more enjoyable. Everything about the Note makes driving comfortable not only for the driver but the passengers too. Such as cruise control and the speed limiter, allowing you to set a steady speed you are happy with so you can relax on long journeys and still stay within the speed limits.

The Note has the latest diesel technology for more torque and power. This gives you a

quieter, cleaner, faster drive that delivers impressive fuel economy.

If all electric is your choice to drive then the Nissan LEAF is the car for you. Driving an electric car like the 100 per cent Nissan LEAF really can change your life. And not just because of what you will save on petrol. The LEAF is not only as spacious as any other traditional family car, it offers dynamic acceleration, improved torque and speeds that match. 100 per cent electric vehicles are also cheaper, quieter and have zero emissions.

The ever popular Juke is a small crossover with the dynamic style and energy of a sporty hatchback and the street-tough power of an SUV.

The Nissan Pulsar has class-leading spaciousness leaving rear seat passengers satisfied, with greater legroom with no compromise on boot space, thanks to its longest-in-class wheelbase.

The best-selling Qashqai is proving to be as popular in the used market as brand new. The Nissan Qashqai is definitely the king of the urban jungle.

Models are available across the specifications and can include a panoramic glass roof which floods the car with space and light. With its dynamic exterior, the Qashqai is the eye catching crossover that combines the toughness of an SUV with a very stylish design.

The Qashqai not only looks good, it is packed with all the latest technology. Fitted with an around view monitor, giving you an amazing 360 degree bird's eye view of the Qashqai. This makes parking effortless and enables you to park in the tightest of spots.



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**There are great reductions
on approved used cars so
that the customer can buy
with confidence**
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In the largest vehicle class we have the 4 wheel drive X Trail with space for up to seven, a sleek look, a high quality interior and some seriously smart technology under the skin. It's positioned just above the popular Qashqai, offering crossover aesthetics with proper SUV mechanicals.

For those wishing to possess a tough, off road vehicle that has lots of carrying capacity and power then the Nissan Navara pick-up is the one to look at.

For those with a desire for speed and style the sports model Nissan 370z V6 GT Coupe also features in the sale.

Finally for businesses there is the NV200 panel van. A spacious well designed and economical van.

If any of these excellent models takes your fancy then pop along to either Greenhous Nissan dealership or visit the website to browse the offers on line at your leisure.

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Upping the game in L200

By Graham Breeze

Replacing your best seller is always a tricky business, particularly when it's the model that has won you accolades for the past 33 years.

So Mitsubishi chiefs knew they had to get things right when unveiling the new L200. After all this was the model which reignited the pick-up sector and introduced new generations of drivers to macho motoring.

You see them everywhere you go, wind blowing in their hair and with muscular arms draped out of open windows, no matter what the weather conditions may be. The pick-up driver is from a different breed.

The L200 has long been setting the standards in this sector so any new launch is risky. And working on the principle that "if it isn't broken don't fix it" few would have condemned Mitsubishi for revealing just a few tweaks to the proven product.

Instead the L200 Series 5 is an entirely new vehicle from the ground up with the company claiming significant improvements in no less than 330 areas. Mitsubishi claim best in class efficiency, performance, emissions, manoeuvrability, carrying capacity, 4WD ability, SUV level driving refinement and aerodynamics.

The UK market seems to have gone pick-up mad with Mitsubishi facing opposition from all corners as more and more realise the benefits of a vehicle which can retain a

comfortable and refined cabin while at the same time offering transport solutions for builders, bikers and farmers – and a lot more too.

The new arrival really is a traditional pick-up from top-to-toe though, a five-seater double cab offering with plenty of the necessary chunky styling that attracted 6,500 sales last year. The beauty is that you can use the generous load bay to do just about any job while keeping the doublecab clean and safe for any family occasion.

There's a choice of models to pick from, starting with a single cab version at less than £20,000 through to a top-of the range variant at £35,390, so there's a model to suit just about every pocket and need.

The L200 Series 5 has the largest carrying capacity of any pick-up and with a combined 42.8mpg uses between 11 and 47 per cent less fuel than its rival. At just 169g/km it also has the lowest emissions in class.

Power and torque have been increased to 178bhp and 430Nm at 2,500rpm delivering top performance through either a new six speed manual or automatic box. At 10.4 seconds the new L200 is two seconds faster to 62 mph than its predecessor.

Like the opposition, which mainly comes from VW Amarok, Nissan Navara, Toyota Hilux and Isuzu D-Max, the L200 is more comfortable on road than off – though is more than capable in the mud and track. The problem is we tend to judge all off-road performance with Land Rover and Jeep and the pick-up will never have that much ability.

Around town you are constantly reminded if diesel is your choice, though there's a marked improvement on the open road and



'This was the model which reignited the pick-up sector and introduced new generations of drivers to macho driving.'

while there's plenty of wind noise there's very little feedback from the road.

The pick-up sector is popular with firms who can claim back the VAT and with company car drivers too because a portion of price attracts flat rate taxation. On a safety note there are seven airbags and the steering wheel retracts cleverly on impact. There are also shock absorbing structures around bumpers and the bonnet to minimise pedestrian injury on impact.

It's easy to get comfortable behind the

wheel thanks to lots of seat and steering wheel adjustments but passengers were complaining that that the seating was too hard and lacked back support - not a problem I noticed myself. The controls are impressively easy and nicely chunky to reflect the image.

There's no mistaking that Mitsubishi has really upped the pick-up game with the new L200, but don't expect the opposition to sit back. This a very lucrative sector and there will be a reaction.

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Monday 28th	10am-4pm	Friday 1st January 2016	CLOSED
Tuesday 29th	9am-5pm	Saturday 2nd January	9am-5pm
Wednesday 30th	9am-5pm	Sunday 3rd January	10am-4pm

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P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Burton Albion	24	16	3	5	32	19
Gillingham	25	15	5	4	29	51
Walsall	24	16	4	4	29	58
Coventry	24	15	8	4	27	54
Wigan Athletic	24	11	8	5	35	22
Peterborough	24	12	4	9	32	38
Sheff Wed	24	10	1	13	31	30
Sheff Utd	24	10	6	8	34	38
Rochdale	24	9	7	8	32	27
Millwall	24	10	4	10	36	34
Doncaster Rvs	24	9	7	9	31	33
Bradford City	23	9	7	24	34	34
Port Vale	24	9	6	9	28	27
Bury	24	9	6	9	33	33
Scunthorpe	23	9	7	24	34	34
Swindon Town	24	8	12	3	39	28
Barnsley	24	8	13	34	41	27
Chesham	25	8	14	33	41	27
Fleetwood	24	10	5	12	32	38
Shrewsbury	24	7	13	31	42	26
Blackpool	24	7	14	23	31	25
Oldham Athletic	23	12	8	25	36	21
Crewe Alexandra	24	5	14	23	44	20

Vanarama National

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Southern Moors	23	14	8	1	44	18
Nth Ferriby Utd	23	14	7	4	52	27
Nuneaton Tm	23	16	6	4	44	25
Boston Utd	23	14	9	7	39	45
AFV Ely	22	13	4	5	41	25
Hargrave Tm	22	12	4	6	36	27
Tarnworth	22	11	6	5	33	40
Stockport County	24	8	8	21	31	32
Curzon Ashton	21	8	7	6	33	27
G'borough Trinity	23	9	11	26	33	30
Chorley	22	9	9	34	36	29
Slough City	22	8	8	34	36	29
Alfreton Tm	24	7	11	28	31	27
Bradford Pk	21	6	8	7	26	26
GloUCESTER City	23	7	11	28	31	27
Lowestoft Tm	24	7	12	31	42	26
Worcester City	24	7	11	25	31	25
FC Utd of Man.	22	7	11	30	38	25
Northfleet	23	8	9	30	40	23
Brackley Tm	23	5	7	12	34	24
Corby Tm	24	5	7	12	31	22
AFV Ely	24	4	15	16	36	16

Evo-Stik Division One

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Stallion	25	18	5	2	52	16
Shaw Ld A'force	21	16	2	46	18	39
Spalding Utd	20	15	9	36	35	33
Romulus	26	10	11	43	45	33
Leek Tm	21	16	2	46	18	39
Chasewen	22	9	6	7	38	28
Basford Utd	23	9	6	8	31	27
Doverley Tm	21	10	6	33	35	33
Kidsgrove Ath	21	8	7	46	35	31
Belper Tm	23	8	9	36	39	30
Midway Tm	22	8	10	41	45	30
Shelford	24	8	10	41	45	30
Rugby Tm	23	8	9	36	32	30
Stridge Pk	18	8	4	26	22	28
Doncaster	21	10	6	33	35	33
Gresley	20	8	11	26	30	25
Carlton Tm	24	7	15	38	48	23
Gosport AFC	21	7	12	30	45	23
Northfleet	21	7	12	30	45	23
Tipton Tm	24	2	6	16	25	12

West Midlands (Regional) League

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Shawbury Utd	23	15	4	8	39	39
AFV Ely	23	14	5	47	19	44
Walsall	23	14	5	47	19	44
Walsingham	23	12	7	6	42	43
Wm Casuals	24	12	7	5	47	41
Dudley Sports	22	14	6	50	40	44
Walsingham	22	14	6	50	40	44
Pegasus Juniors	22	10	3	41	44	33
Wellington	21	9	4	44	34	31
Malvern Tm	22	10	11	52	35	31
Elmstead Tm	21	10	11	52	35	31
Smethwick Rgrs	21	9	12	54	37	31
BC Rgrs	20	8	6	37	26	30
Stons OA	21	3	9	35	41	20
Gornal Athletic	22	3	11	51	42	19
Widnall Tm	24	5	11	41	56	29
Dudley Tm	21	7	7	34	35	28
Walsingham	21	7	7	34	35	28
Blyth Tm	21	5	11	29	32	26
Bromyard Tm	20	5	13	37	68	17
Wellington Ams	21	5	13	24	56	14
Tipton Tm	23	0	4	19	15	81

Division 1

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
AFV Ely	20	16	2	2	22	50
Headless	15	11	3	5	21	42
Shifnal Tm	12	2	4	44	26	38
Darlington Tm	17	9	5	3	27	32
St Martins	18	9	2	46	39	29
FC C'ford	18	9	2	46	39	29
Wem Tm	18	9	1	44	38	28
Kington Tm	14	7	4	3	31	25
Wendlesfield	15	6	4	24	22	21
Stonewort Path	17	6	2	29	25	20
Wrens Nest	16	6	2	26	21	20
Bartestree	18	5	10	29	37	18
Penrith	16	4	8	31	44	16
Buteholme	18	4	11	31	56	15
Town Dudley	15	3	9	29	45	12
Wyley	17	2	4	11	25	40
Wrocs Raiders	14	3	0	11	20	9

Division 2

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Newport Tm	15	13	2	0	55	20
Old Wulframs	15	11	3	2	17	19
W'ton Utd	15	8	2	3	37	26
Warstone Wdms	11	6	2	42	23	21
Telford Juniors	15	6	5	6	26	21
Shrewsbury	15	6	5	6	26	21
Malvern Tm	15	6	5	6	26	21
Wendle Vaults	10	3	2	25	13	19
Blackbrook FC	12	4	2	31	14	14
Tivdare Res	14	4	2	8	31	14
Sikh Indians	14	4	2	8	29	14
Red Star Alms	11	4	2	4	26	13
Porton YFC	14	4	2	4	26	13
Gornal Colts	13	3	2	8	29	11
Wrens Nest Res	1	2	13	5	56	5

Huws Gray Alliance

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Carnarvon Tm	16	11	2	40	13	36
Old Cradock	15	11	3	42	17	39
Denbigh Tm	18	10	2	36	34	32
Prestatyn Tm	16	10	5	39	24	31
Flint Tm	16	9	2	38	21	29
Holywell Tm	15	9	2	38	21	29
Glyside	15	9	2	31	35	29
Holyhead H'spur	14	6	3	24	18	22
Gresford Athletic	15	6	3	25	21	25
Wrexham	16	6	3	25	21	25
Buckley Tm	16	4	3	27	39	15
Conwy Borough	13	4	1	15	20	13
Maldo Alexandra	15	2	2	24	31	12
Llanfair Tm	14	2	0	10	12	12
Rhayader Tm	14	2	0	15	30	7
Caersws	15	2	1	12	32	7

Spar Mid Wales League

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Carno	13	9	0	4	27	12
Penrynhoed	10	8	2	0	31	26
Welshpool Town	13	8	4	24	24	32
Llanfair	13	8	4	24	24	32
Knightsdown	10	7	1	2	28	9
Waterloo Rovers	14	6	2	22	56	20
Hay St Marys	14	6	1	7	36	19
Machynell	16	6	1	7	28	32
Llandrindod Wells	10	6	0	4	18	14
Llandudnos Town	13	5	1	7	20	30
Bow Street	13	5	0	8	19	18
Aberaron	13	4	3	8	18	25
Tywyn Brynruig	13	3	0	9	20	40
Montgomery Tm	11	2	12	12	32	2*

Division 2

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Berry	17	12	0	5	74	24
Kernow	13	11	1	1	48	16
Buith Wells	10	10	2	4	40	24
Aberystwyth Utd	9	1	2	46	19	28
Rodan Valley	15	9	0	6	37	23
North United	13	9	0	3	35	19
Barmalee	16	5	3	31	19	24
Bethws	16	5	3	31	37	23
Churchstoke	16	6	2	8	36	45
Newbridge	10	1	10	27	13	30
Prestige	10	3	10	25	47	12
Dyffryn Barw	14	3	9	24	32	11
Bont	10	2	10	12	26	9
Penybol	10	2	10	15	32	10
Four Crosses	16	2	12	22	68	8

Watson Financial Mid Wales League (South)

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
R'ader Tm Res	15	11	3	1	54	16
Brecon FC	12	9	1	2	39	16
K'ghon Tm Res	12	8	3	1	37	15
Llodydd Tm Res	11	7	1	10	28	13
Prestige Res	12	5	2	6	25	32
Carno Res	11	5	1	5	22	25
Llanfair Res	13	4	3	6	34	16
H St Marys Res	13	4	3	6	34	16
Newcastle	10	4	2	4	17	18
St Harmon	14	3	6	29	40	14
Brecon Wdms	12	4	2	3	36	11
Buith Wells Res	15	3	11	22	51	10
Talgarth Tm	9	1	2	6	7	23

Welsh Beef & Lamb Mid Wales League

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Llanfair Utd	3	3	0	13	3	3
Chorley	3	2	1	0	7	6
Bow Street	3	2	1	0	7	6
Llanfair Tm	4	1	2	3	6	4
Doverley Tm	4	0	4	6	15	0

Zone B

P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Llanidloes	6	6	0	4	5	18
Newtown	5	2	0	3	11	19
Caersws	4	2	0	2	10	19
Knightsdown	5	0	5	6	31	0

Sportsjarm Regional Football League

Riverside.....	10	5	1	4	23	21	16
AFC B'seley Res10	4	2	4	2	21	26	14
N'antion Jrs FC12	4	0	8	4	41	32	12
Ridlington Casuals7	3	1	3	3	29	23	10
FC Oswestry R.....	9	1	0	8	21	46	3
Denso.....	12	1	0	11	9	101	3

Spender is on money with leveller for Saints

Newtown 2 The New Saints 2
SIMON Spender rescued The New Saints' unbeaten record with a late leveller as the Welsh Premier leaders produced a stirring second half fightback in a thriller at Latham Park.

Unbeaten this term, the Saints faced a real battle after a Neil Mitchell penalty and a deflected cross from Luke Boundford had put the Robins in the ascendancy. But the visitors showed their champion credentials as they rallied in the second half, with Chris Marriott pulling one back straight from a corner before right back Spender levelled seven minutes from time.

It was another league draw, their eighth in all this season, and third in a row, but boss Craig Harrison would have been relieved that his side's unbeaten record remained in tact following an entertaining tussle at Latham Park.

The Saints certainly deserved something for their efforts, twice hitting the woodwork while being frustrated by a terrific goalkeeping display from home stopper Dave Jones.

The defending champions started well, with Ryan Edwards sending an early curling shot against the post after a crossfield ball from Kai Edwards was flicked on by Adrian Cieslewicz.

But it was the Robins who got their noses in front on 16 minutes when Sean Evans' cross was deflected onto the hand of defender Phil Baker, and referee Huw Jones pointed to the spot, which Mitchell due converted for his second penalty in as many games.

TNS were almost level as Marriott's cross was deflected onto the post, but Newtown were up for the fight with Jason Oswell glancing a header just wide while Jamie Price also pulled a shot past the post.

However, a second goal arrived in somewhat fortuitous fashion on 28 minutes, when Boundford's cross from the right looped over keeper Paul Harrison helped by a deflection off Marriott.

Despite the scoreline, TNS were creating several chances at the other end, with Aeron Edwards and Chris Seargeant seeing goal-bound strikes met by terrific saves from Jones.

But Newtown had a chance to net a third just before half time when Oswell could only volley straight at keeper Harrison when put free in the box by Price's cross.

The Saints, chasing a 10th crown this term, showed their worth as they emerged with purpose in the second half, with Jamie Mullan denied by a timely intervention from Evans.

Oswell could have made it safe for the Robins but fired over, before TNS revived their hopes with 13 minutes later when Marriott's inswinging corner drifted into the far corner despite appeals that keeper Jones had been impeded.

Spurred by the goal, the Saints grabbed a deserved equaliser on 83 minutes when Mullan crossed from the byline for Spender to sweep the ball home off the post.

Grandmasters in the county for Congress

OVER 110 players are now signed up to take part in Shropshire's biggest chess event at the weekend, which this year will be the strongest ever with a record £1,000 first prize in the toughest section.

The money has been one factor in attracting top-level competition, with five Grandmasters competing. The other factor is that Shropshire Chess Congress will not this year clash with the prestigious Hastings chess tournament, which would otherwise have tied up those Grandmasters.

The congress is at Wrekin Housing Trust in Telford and begins on January 8 – the first time in many years that there has been a Friday evening game – and continues on Saturday and Sunday, with five rounds in all.

High fives from Guilsfield in the Cup

GUILDSFIELD eased into the fourth round of the Central Wales Cup after sweeping aside Knighton Town 5-0 with a clinical display at Newtown.

The in-form Jake Cook and Aaron Edwards both scored twice, with Mark Davies also on target to take the Cymru Alliance men into the next round where they will host either Llandrindod Wells or Penrhyn-coch.

The Guils would have been relieved to have beaten the weather, with the clubs agreeing to switch the tie to Newtown's 3G pitch at Latham Park as Knighton's ground was waterlogged.

After surviving an early chance for their Spar Mid Wales opponents, Cook opened the scoring on nine minutes to put Guilsfield on their way.

Aaron Edwards doubled the score on the stroke of

half time with a fine curling shot with the outside of his right foot.

The Guils pressed throughout he second half, the third goal coming in the 53rd minute after Andy Ford won possession near the half line and drove forward down the left.

Ford found Cook on the edge of the box and his pull back from the byline led to Davies firing home to finish a flowing move.

On 67 minutes, Cook was fouled in the area and he slotted home the spot kick to make it 4-0, before Edwards collected his second goal late on after capitalising on some confusion between the Knighton keeper and his defence.

Elsewhere, heavy rain wreaked havoc with the cup programme after a host of third round ties were

postponed due to waterlogged pitches.

Llanrhaeadr's third round clash at Caersws was one of the casualties, the tie being rearranged for Tuesday January, 26.

Llanfair United's home tie with Bow Street was also off as the recent deluge took its toll.

Other games off included Waterloo Rovers' home tie with Llansantffraid Village and Berriew's trip to Dyffryn Banw, the winners of which will meet Llanidloes in the fourth round.

Llanidloes were one of the few sides to beat the weather as they overcame Bont 3-0 with goals from Warren Sherwood, Rhys Evans and captain Matthew Savage. Carno also progressed 3-1 against Borth United, while Machynlleth were comfortable 5-1 victors against Tywyn Bryncreg.

Wilde nets landmark 150th goal for TNS

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

The New Saints 4 Newtown 1
HOT-SHOT Mike Wilde notched his 150th league goal as The New Saints launched the New Year with a 4-1 victory over Newtown to maintain their tight grip at the top of the Dafabet Welsh Premier.

After the sides shared a thrilling 2-2 draw on Boxing Day, the return fixture saw the unbeaten Saints prove too hot to handle as they got back on the winning trail after three draws.

Wilde was delighted to reach his landmark after neatly finishing off a well worked move with Ryan Edwards to take his tally to an impressive 150 goals in 210 league starts.

"Somebody mentioned it a few days before saying I was close to 150, so they checked it out and found I was just one goal short," he said

"It was not something that played on my mind, but it is a good milestone to have - although some people may say that I should have had a few more!

"I have enjoyed a lot of success for TNS, I have a lot of fond memories

"All the goals have been special. I particularly remember those that have led to us winning the title, while I also enjoyed the hat-trick in the Champions League in the summer."

Wilde's strike sealed a comfortable victory for the Saints who led at the break through Adrian Cieslewicz before Jamie Mullan and Ryan Edwards produced excellent finishes to make it 3-0 after the interval.

Overhead kick

Neil Mitchell pulled one back with an overhead kick on 74 minutes to revive the Robins, but any thoughts of a fightback were quickly dispelled as Wilde brought up his landmark when slotting into the corner after being set up by Edwards.

Victory kept the Saints 10 points clear at the summit, and maintained their unbeaten record, while leaving Newtown sweating on a top six spot.

Wilde had his chances to bring up his milestone long before finally finding the net on 76 minutes, while Cieslewicz was also in the thick of the action as he went close on several occasions.

Cieslewicz was wide with a couple of efforts, a powerful strike from 25 yards and another at the back post from Simon Spender's cross, while the Saints also failed to capitalise when Aeron Edwards rounded keeper Dave Jones who managed to get back to clear the danger.

But the Polish winger was not to be denied on the half hour when curling in a neat shot past



Jamie Mullan gets The New Saints on the attack and leaves Newtown's Jamie Price trailing in his wake

keeper Dave Jones having been set up by Wilde after Gavin Cadwallader had lost the ball on the edge of the box.

This stung Newtown into action with Jamie Price's free kick being fumbled by keeper Paul Harrison before the ball was cleared, while Jason Oswell was denied by the keeper after latching onto a long ball.

Chances were falling at both ends, with Mullan turning a shot wide for the hosts and also heading over, while Wilde failed to make contact with an inviting Cieslewicz cross.

TNS, however, stamped their authority on the game after doubling their lead three minutes into the sec-

ond half when Chris Marriott's low cross was neatly tucked away by Mullan.

Cieslewicz when close to a third when curling a shot inches wide while keeper Jones kept Newtown in the hunt with further fine saves from Cieslewicz and Wilde. Mullan and Aeron Edwards went close, before TNS's efforts earned further reward when Ryan Edwards produced a fine finish on 69 minutes to all but seal the victory.

Neil Mitchell did pull one back with an overhead kick on 74 minutes, but Wilde had the last word with his 150th league goal two minutes later after good work by Edwards.

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

which were lost against Bridgnorth reserves and Childs Ercall.

Since those two defeats in early September, their only other loss came at the hands of West Midland Premier League leaders Shawbury United in the Powell Cup.

Victory over Tarporley Victoria saw Town reach the Commander Ethelston Cup semi final, while other cup victories also mean that Town are in the last eight of the Shropshire County Cup and the Mercian Premier League Cup.

In the league, Town have been unbeaten in 11 games, dropping only four points as they vie for top spot with Allscott.

In-form striker Chris Bishop leads the league scoring table with 32 goals that include now fewer than six hat-tricks, while other members of the

team have attracted rave reviews, including the latest addition to the squad Guy Guilford who arrived from St Martins.

After the recent 4-2 home victory over Bridgnorth Reserves, the team took a deserved break before returning to league action in what may be an early title decider against Allscott.

With crowds growing and followers enjoying the passing football played by Town, it has been terrific to see a Oswestry side full of local players enjoying such a fine season.

The goal is to win the league and secure promotion for the players as there is no doubt they have the ability to succeed, while a few cups along the way would also be nice and give the FC Oswestry Town supporters a great day out.

With all the games for 2015 now complete, Town lie second in the league behind Allscott on goal difference with both team having 38 points from 16 games played, only losing two games each.

Welshpool level at top after edging local rivals

WELSHPOOL took the local bragging rights after edging out near neighbours Waterloo Rovers 2-1 to share pole position in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

Two goals from Will Thomas proved enough to settle the Maes-ydre derby, with Will Pritchard putting one back late on to keep Rovers in the hunt.

Llanrhaeadr lost pole position after title favourites Penrhyn-coch returned to the summit on goal difference from Welshpool and Carno after securing a convincing 4-0 victory over Aberaeron at Cae Baker.

After their clash had been given the go-ahead following heavy rain, the Roosters made the most of their action as they took an interval lead through Jonathan Evans. Mattie Davies, Evans and Nathan Warren added further goals after the break.

Carno are also looking good after climbing up to second spot after they overcame a battling Llanidloes Town 2-1 at home.

Playing with a strong wind in the first half, Llani took a deserved lead when Matthew Savage volleyed home a left wing cross.

Carno earned parity when Peter Rees latched onto a ball before firing home and, soon after, they were in front when Gregg Brown stabbed in from close range.

Rock bottom MONTGOMERY slipped deeper into the basement mire after suffering a 3-0 loss at improving Knighton Town who have now gone up to fifth, with Waterloo slipping down to sixth place.

Rich Davies fired a hat-trick as BERRIEW turned up the pressure on second division leaders Kerry with a crushing 8-2 victory over DYFFRYN BANW.

Rob Pritchard (2), Steffan Rogers, George Davies and own goal saw the Rhiwsideers moved to within two points of the top with four games in hand.

FOUR CROSSES continue to prop up the second division on goal difference after slumping 4-0 at home to Churchstoke.

*Welshpool's hopes of opening up a gap at the top of the Spar Mid Wales League division one were dashed as their clash at lowly Montgomery was rained off.

Red-hot Cook nets again in Guils' victory

JAKE COOK was again among the goals as Guilsfeld stayed in touching distance of the leading pack in the Cymru Alliance with a hard-fought 2-1 success at relegation threatened Llanfair United.

After his brace in the Welsh Cup win against Cwmaman United the week before, the attacking midfielder added two more to his tally to keep the Guils in the top six.

After both sides had goals chalked out for offside, Cook struck in the ninth minute when beating his marker before curling a sweet left footer into the net.

Llanfair hit back through James Davies with a well taken goal on the break just three minutes later, but the Guils had the better of the second half on a heavy surface.

They got their noses in front after Aeron Edwards was brought down in the box by Danny Jones and, although his penalty was saved, Cook dispatched the rebound.

Llanfair finished strongly, and went close to a leveller when Joe Vaughan's shot looped against the bar.

However, defeat means that Rhys Stephens' side are now third bottom on goal difference, although they do have games in hand on a number of sides above them

Caersws, meanwhile, continue to prop up the table after being left to rue missed chances in their 1-1 home draw with fellow strugglers Rhayader Town.

After a goalless first half, Rhyddian Davies gave Rhayader the lead from the penalty spot five minutes into the second period, but Daryl Rogers ensured parity with a well-taken first goal for the Bluebirds on 72 minutes.



The COBRA vets who defeated their Welshpool counterparts 15-9 in the traditional Nick Whiffen Cup, (back from left): Trevor Jones, Alan Williams, Dewi Davies, Gareth Jones, Chris Robson, Barry Jones, Jeremy Jones, Mark Jones, James Watkin, Robert Titley, referee Mike Savage; (front): Aled Roberts, Matt Griffiths, Gareth Smith, Shaun Simmons, Huw Tudor, Alun Pryce, Darren Jones, Phil Davies.



Phil "Doris" Davies spins the ball out to No8 Aled Roberts for COBRA veterans in their victory against Welshpool vets

COBRA's crackers



No8 Jack Jukes looks to break free for COBRA in their 40-5 victory over Llandudno



Flanker Gareth Evans goes up in the line-out to win more ball for COBRA. Pictures: Lynne Owen.



Fly-half Llew Williams pulls off a timely tackle



Delighted captain Iwan Vaughan after scoring a try



Back row Jack Jukes dives over for COBRA's final score to seal a fine 40-5 victory

COBRA made a storming start to the New Year as they boosted their survival prospects in the Swalec Welsh League division one (north) with a 40-5 hammering of visiting Llandudno.

The Meifod men cut loose in their biggest ever win in the division, playing some terrific running rugby despite the heavy conditions underfoot to claim a precious bonus point victory.

It was their third win in four games, lifting them to third from bottom and closing the gap on several teams above as they look forward to improved fortunes in 2016.

The resurgent hosts were soon on the score-

RUGBY by John Bridgwater

board when they forced a line-out five yards out and, after a couple of phases, the ball was spun to captain and centre Iwan Vaughan to break through under the posts, fly half Llew Williams converting.

With quick hands, COBRA were looking sharp as good field positions laid the base for their attacking intentions, and their efforts were further rewarded with a second well-worked touchdown midway through the half.

A scrum in midfield saw impressive No8 Jack Jukes pick up and his neat dummy carved an opening as he surged through before a couple of offloads saw flanker Aled Humphreys race over for Williams to add the conversion for a 14-0 lead.

Llandudno did their utmost to get back into the game and enjoyed a strong spell of pressure just before half time.

They were well placed to get their first points on the board when the Llanfair side turned the ball over close to their line, man of the match Jukes breaking upfield before slipping the ball to wing Richard Jones who raced over half the length of the pitch to touch down, again under the posts, with Williams converting.

It proved a key moment of the game, but the visitors continued to battle hard after the interval as they tried to salvage the game in increasingly heavy conditions.

But it was the hosts who added a fourth try to wrap up a bonus point when Williams hacked on a loose ball to race through, before Vaughan followed up to touch down.

The conversion was missed, but Williams duly supplied the extras following a fifth try when winger Matthew Jones went over after the Meifod men had opted for a scrum following a penalty.

Llandudno had the consolation of an unconverted try, but COBRA had the last word in the dying moments when Vaughan slipped an inside pass to Jukes who surged clear for a deserved try, again converted by Williams to complete a memorable win.

WELSHPOOL suffered a battling 22-8 home loss to high flying Powys rivals Newtown in their first action of 2016 in division three (north).

The hosts played well in spells, and responded with a try through No8 Ryan Goodwin and a penalty by Andrew Thomas, but the un-

beaten visitors held the upper hand to record their ninth straight win to surge further clear at the top.

Pool, who remain fourth in the table, will be looking to get back to winning ways when they travel to Anglesey to take on second bottom Holyhead on Saturday.

COBRA II bowed out of the Mid Wales Cup after losing 9-3 to their Newtown counterparts.

COBRA Vets took the honours in the annual Nick Whiffen Cup with a 15-9 victory over local rivals Welshpool.

Hooker Phil Davies and scrum-half Darren Jones both scored tries for the Meifod men, with Jones also adding a conversion and penalty. Three penalties from fly-half Andrew Thomas kept Pool in the hunt.

Sport

Football
Catch up on the
local games – P42

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Guils hoping to close gap on top spots

GUILSFIELD will be looking to keep the pressure on the leading pack in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance when they host one of their chief rivals Holywell Town on Saturday (2.30).

Despite lying seventh, the villagers are just three points adrift of this weekend's third placed visitors, while they also have a game in hand.

They lost 3-1 away to the Wellmen earlier in the season, and boss Dan Barton knows his side will be in for a tough challenge in the return.

"I was quite impressed with Holywell that day, on that performance they will be up there challenging," he said.

"So Saturday, if it goes ahead, will be a massive game for us as we want to keep our run going."

Barton, who is pondering a couple of new signings this month to strengthen both ends of the pitch, will be without central defender James Henderson for this weekend's action.

The Guils maintained their winning ways by progressing to the Central Wales Cup fourth round with a 5-0 victory over Knighton Town in a tie switched to Newtown's 3G pitch due to the weather. In the next round, they will host either Llandrindod Wells or Penrhynoch.

"It's always good to win any game," added Barton. "But we're not getting carried away."

LLANFAIR UNITED were again left frustrated as their home tie with Bow Street in the Central Wales Cup was called off after their Mount pitch was left waterlogged following more torrential rain.

Having played just twice in six weeks, Llanfair will be desperate to return to duty at home to Gresford Athletic in the Huws Gray Cup on Saturday (1.30).

After this weekend, the focus will then turn to league survival with United lying third from bottom after a fluctuating first half of the season.

"Although we have had a lot of postponements, we're not miles behind in games as the weather has been the same everywhere," said boss Rhys Stephens.

Parry and Evans in World Rally link-up

OSWESTRY'S Craig Parry will link up with Welsh driver Elfyn Evans in this year's FIA World Rally Championship.

Evans will take to the wheel of the new evolution Ford Fiesta R5, and has been confirmed to start both Rally Monte-Carlo and Rally Sweden.

It has also been announced he will be joined by co-driver Parry – a proven navigator with 37 WRC starts to his name.

The duo will contest the world rally's principal support category, with Evans a leading contender after securing two podium finishes behind the wheel of the M-Sport World Rally Team Ford Fiesta RS WRC in 2015.

The crew will want to demonstrate the success of the team's latest upgrades as Ford bids to confirm its position at the top of the WRC 2 standings.

"Now it's time to start a new chapter with a new co-driver and I am looking forward to working with Craig as we look to achieve our shared goals and ambitions," said Evans.

Clarke is looking to make his mark

CRICKETER Joe Clarke will be looking to shrug off his injury frustration when he returns to the international scene with England Lions this month.

The Oswestry-based wicket-keeper batsman, who played in the Birmingham League for his home town club last summer, will again feature in the Lions' forthcoming one-day series with Pakistan A in Dubai.

It's the second time Worcestershire ace Clarke

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

has received international recognition this winter having figured for the Lions in their 3-2 T20 series success against Pakistan A last month.

However, injury restricted the 19-year-old from Trefonen to just one appearance, and his director of cricket Steve Rhodes at Worcestershire, who

will again be part of the Lions coaching set-up, is sure he will be keen to make his mark with the Lions.

Rhodes said: "He had impressed everybody in the UAE warm-up games and he had a nice little knock in the first game."

"But in sport you have a lot of ups and downs and he got himself injured. But he has got himself picked for the next stage and hopefully will do well."

TNS goal machine in milestone

MIKE Wilde confirmed his status as one of the Welsh Premier's most prolific marksmen by netting his 150th league goal for The New Saints.

The 32-year-old striker, a key figure in TNS' trophy-laden success over the past decade, has not played as much as he would have liked this term due to a troublesome ankle injury.

But he returned to the starting line-up over the festive period, and popped up with his 150th league goal in the 4-1 New Year's Day victory over Newtown.

The former Chester City striker, who is currently enjoying his second spell with the Saints, completed his landmark in only 210 starts, and certainly has power to add.

"Someone had mentioned to me that I was on 149 so I was delighted to have scored the landmark goal," he said.

"It didn't play on my mind in the game, but it's a good milestone, while some might say I should have had a few more."

"I have loads of fond memories with TNS, in the Champions League – scoring in Europe, playing against Liverpool and Manchester City, but also all the goals that have led to us winning the league over the years too."

The forward began this season in fine form with a hat-trick in the UEFA Champions League victory against Faroeese champions B36 Torshavn.

Match report see page 42

Eagles start year against leaders

OSWESTRY launch the New Year with a vital trip to leaders and title rivals Dukinfield in rugby's Cheshire South on Saturday.

The Eagles are flying at the moment, with 10 wins out of 11 in the league, and lie just five points off top spot with two games in hand on the pacesetters.

After a break in action over the festive period, they now look to hit the ground running in their top-of-the-table showdown as they bid to start the year as they ended it.

Meanwhile, COBRA are due to head to Whitland for their rearranged second-round tie in the Swalec Plate clash on Saturday – weather permitting.

The original tie in Carmarthenshire was called off at the 11th hour due to a waterlogged pitch last month, so the Meifod club will be hoping for an improvement in the weather this weekend.

COBRA special – page 43

Hockey men ready for return to action

AFTER their seasonal break, Oswestry men return to the pitch on Saturday when they host Droitwich Spa at the Marches School in the West Midlands Hockey League division one.

It has been a mixed first half of the campaign for the team who currently lie fifth, with five league wins, four defeats and one draw. But they have struggled for a full complement of players at times, and had to concede their last outing of the year against West Bromwich.

TNS BOSS EYES MORE SIGNINGS

THE New Saints boss Craig Harrison is looking for his unbeaten table-toppers to go from strength to strength in 2016 after signalling his intentions to bring in fresh blood.

The Saints enjoyed unrivalled success in the past year, lifting three trophies including the Welsh Premier title for a ninth time, as well as the Word Cup and Welsh Cup.

And Harrison warned the defending champions will not be resting on their laurels as they seek to emulate their treble triumph – and is chasing as many as three new signings in the January transfer window.

"It's been a great year, but we're determined to have more success in 2016, and we must never stop looking to improve," he said.

"I'm working on bringing in some new signings in the January transfer window. In the ideal world I would like to strengthen defence and midfield, and would also like a forward."

"Now's a good time to bring in any new players as they will have time to settle in before, hopefully, we play in Europe in the summer."

"First and foremost we want to try to win the league again, and anything else will be a bonus. We're in a good position, but we don't want complacency to creep in."

In all, TNS won 35 of 47 domestic matches last season with 11 draws and just one defeat, while also winning three games in the Champions League.

And they showed they again mean business in 2016 by starting the year with a 4-1 home success over Newtown to cement their 10-point lead at the top, a result that halted a run of three draws.

"There was no panic despite drawing our previous three games, but it was nice to get a win against Newtown," added Harrison.

"With no game this week, the lads had three or four days off as they have been in training since since May 26. We've already had what is like a full season for most clubs, and we've still got three months left, so they deserve their break."

The Saints are next in action with a visit to Gap Connah's Quay in their last game before the league split on Saturday (January 16), with a 5.15pm kick-off.

The following week they will be out to lift their first silverware of the season when they tackle giant-killers Denbigh Town in the final of the Word Cup at Llandudno, also a 5.15pm start in front of the S4C cameras.

Tommy drives in at Henlle



New seniors captain for 2016, Tommy Telford, tees off, watched (from left): Andy Hardy, Mike Langley, Terry Gleave, Terry Dodd, Jim Fletcher, George Nicol, John Morris, Bob Clarke seniors captain 2015 Alan James, John Bostock, Hayden James and Rob Smith

THERE were seasonal celebrations at Henlle Park as more than 70 of the club's senior golfers witnessed the "Drive-In" of Tommy Telford, their new captain for the 2016 season.

The annual event followed a successful four ball betterball nine hole competition which was won by Ed Smith and Barry Milburn.

The guests at the Christmas carvery were the club's four greenkeepers in recognition of all their hard work over the year in producing a course to be envied in Shropshire and beyond.

End of season trophies for 2015 were presented to: Match play pairs - Tony Davies and Colin Chare; Match play singles - Andy Hardy; Team match player of the year - Geoff Bells; Most Improved player of the year - Steve Jervis

Two members received special prizes for holes in one during the season - Jim Richards and John Postle who scored their aces on the second and 12th holes respectively.

Meanwhile, over £170 was raised for the Movement Centre which has been nominated as the club's 2016 charity.

Results

Christmas Individual Stableford: 1 Alan Brown 21pts, 2 Jack Harris 20pts (CB), 3 Stephen Baran 20pts.

Seniors Texas Scramble: 1 Chris Clark, Phil Wilkinson, John B Evans, Tony Madden 47.8pts, 2 Euss Owens, Julian Cheetham, Terry Gleave, Mike Potter 48.3pts, 3 Geoff Keir, Doug Houghton, Albert Davies, Ali Wright 48.9pts.

Christmas 4 ball betterball Stableford: 1 A Harris and J Harris 42pts, 2 G Peate and R Jones 37pts (CB), 3 D Hughes and J Williams 37pts

Seniors Turkey Trot Stableford - Div One: 1 Barrie Evans 30pts, 2 Alistair Wright 29pts (CB); **Division Two:** 1 Barrie Milburn 32pts, 2 Stuart Hilson 29pts (CB).

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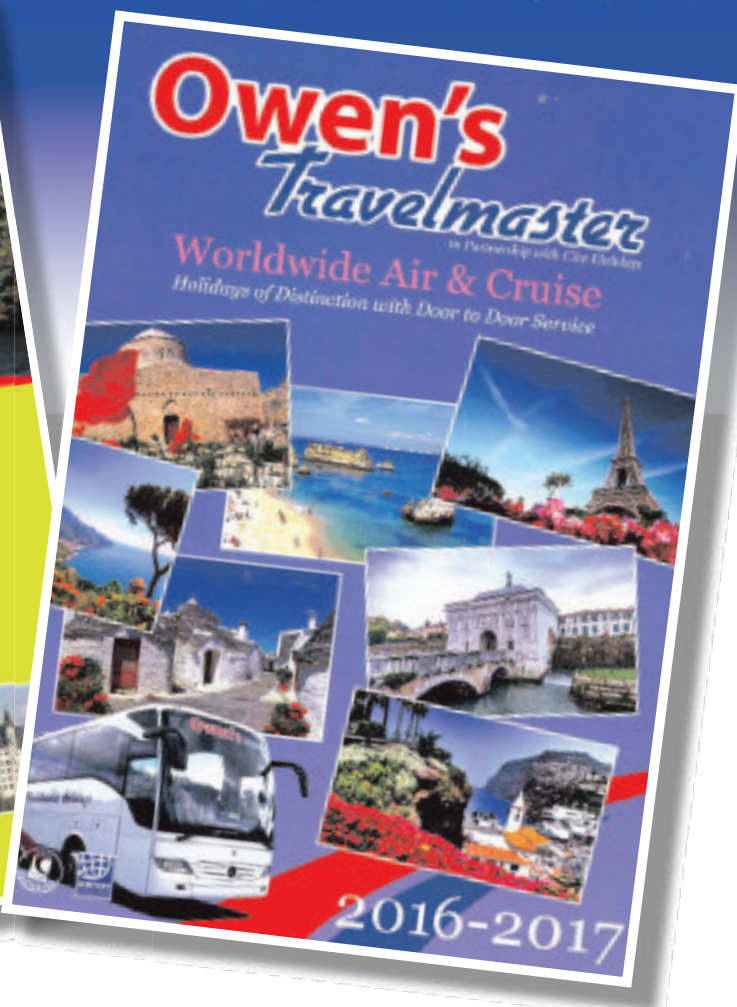
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- All Travel by Executive Coach
- 3 Nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
- Tea, Coffee and cake on arrival
- 2 Nights Live Entertainment (subject to numbers at Hotel)
- Excursions as Detailed
- Sparkling wine reception on final night



Birr is one of Ireland's best examples of a Georgian town. It is a virtually intact 18/19th century town, formal, spacious and well-planned, with Georgian houses along its tree-lined malls and avenues. Birr Castle has been the seat of the Parsons family, Earls (an English title) of Rosse, for fourteen generations. This tour package gives you a real taste of traditional Ireland.

St Patrick's Day and a Taste of Ireland

5 DAYS 14-18 MARCH £325

5 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- Return ferry crossings
- 4 Nights 3 Course, 3 Choice Dinner, Bed & Breakfast
- Porterage
- Irish Themed Dinner and Irish Dancing at Hotel
- Local Story Teller history talk
- Live Irish music on St Patrick's Night at Hotel
- Quiz/bingo on 1 night at Hotel
- Irish Coffee/Soda Bread Demo at Hotel



Eastbourne is one of Britain's more elegant resorts with its wide spacious promenade, many gardens and squares and the rolling grasslands ascending to the high perpendicular cliffs of Beachy Head. A Pier and a fine shopping centre are other features of the resort. Eastbourne also offers a variety of entertainment. The distinctive three-tier promenade is bordered by dazzling floral displays and the turquoise and gold domed bandstand looks striking against the seascape.

Elegant Eastbourne

5 DAYS, 29 MARCH - 2 APRIL 5 DAYS, 6-10 JUNE,

5 DAYS 14-18 AUGUST Price from £305

5 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

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- Excursions as Detailed
- Porterage



Our tour of Poldark Country takes us to the heart of the area in which the novels and the TV series were set. Open your senses to the coast in Cornwall and really get to know what Poldark Country was like - the smell of the sea, the cries of the gulls, the views of the rolling hills inland and the blurring of sea and sky on the horizon. Our tour offers you the opportunity to see some amazing mine machinery the incredible hazards which the miners faced in days gone by, as we visit a restored mine. We shall also visit the famous St Michael's Mount and have time free in Penzance and in quaint Helston.

Falmouth & Poldark Country

5 DAYS, 29 APRIL - 3 MAY £340

5 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- 4 Nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
- Excursions as Detailed
- Entry into Poldark Mine
- Porterage
- 3 Nights Entertainment



Our tour will include two unique and world class attractions around the city of Falkirk. Enjoy a boat trip on the world's only rotating boat lift, the Falkirk Wheel, followed by a visit to The Kelpies, a colossal monument to the horse powered heritage of the region.

Scottish Scenic Explorer

5 DAYS, 19-23 JUNE £385

5 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

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- 4 Nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
- Welcome Drink on Arrival
- Scottish Themed Dinner on One Night
- Free Use of Leisure Facilities
- Free Use of 38 Seater Cinema
- Excursions as Detailed
- Admission to Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre



Isle of Man

5 DAYS, 21-25 JUNE £429

5 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel By Executive Coach
- Return ferry crossing Heysham to Isle of Man
- 4 Nights 3 Choice 3 Course Dinner
- Tea/Coffee After Dinner
- 4 Nights Bed & Full Manx Breakfast
- Excursions As Detailed



Highclere Castle - Downton Abbey Experience

3 DAYS, 10-12 AUGUST £199

3 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- 2 Nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
- Entry into Highclere Castle
- Porterage



Chelsea Flower Show

2 DAYS, 27-28 MAY £185

Your Tour Cost Includes

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- 1 Night Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Accommodation
- Entry into Wisley Gardens
- Entry to Chelsea Flower Show



Classic Railways of The North

5 DAYS, 15-19 SEPTEMBER £339

5 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- 4 Nights Dinner, Bed and Breakfast
- Excursions as Detailed
- Worth Valley Railway
- East Lancashire Railway
- North Yorkshire Moors Railway



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Austria - Alpine Meadows and Peaks

24 APRIL - 1 MAY £540

8 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Owen's Select Coach
- Return Ferry Crossing
- Excursions as Detailed
- Two overnight Dinner Bed & Breakfast Liege/Koln region
- 5 Nights Bed & Buffet Breakfast at Resort
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- Welcome drink at resort
- Daily packed lunch: 1 sandwich, 1 small drink, 1 piece of fruit and 1 small chocolate bar (Excluding Arrival & Departure Day) at Resort
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Amsterdam and the Dutch Bulbfields

18 - 22 APRIL £319

5 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- Return overnight Ferry Crossings including cabins, (Dinner & Breakfast not included)
- Welcome Drink - Beer, Wine or Soft Drink with Dinner on the First Night at Resort
- Two Nights 3 Course Dinner, Bed & Buffet Breakfast at Resort
- Excursions as Detailed
- Visit to Keukenhof Gardens



Diano Marina is ideally situated for visits to both the Italian and French Rivières. This popular seaside resort enjoys an enviable position in a wide sweeping bay with the Ligurian Alps behind affording it a mild climate throughout the year.

Italy - Diano Marina & the Cote D'Azur

27 MARCH - 3 APRIL £589

8 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Owen's Select Coach
- Return Ferry Crossing
- Excursions as Detailed
- Two overnight Dinner Bed & Breakfast at the Hotel Ibis Dijon Gare / Dijon
- 4 Nights 3 Course Menu with 3 Choices of Starter, Salad Buffet, 4 Choices of Main and a Dessert (At Resort)
- Speciality Liguian Menu on 1 Night
- Tea/ Coffee after Dinner (At Resort)
- Porterage (At Resort)



Cantabria - Green Spain All-Inclusive

15-24 may £695

10 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel by Executive Coach
- Two Nights Accommodation in 2 Berth Inside Cabins (bunks)
- Seven Nights Accommodation, - (At Resort)
- Buffet Breakfast - (At Resort)
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- Tea Time Buffet Daily 16.00 - 18.00 - (At Resort)
- Dinner Buffet Style Inc Wine & Water - (At Resort)
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- Porterage at Hotel
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The Dordogne and the Vézère

27 AUG - 3 SEPT £745

8 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

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- Glass of wine with dinner (At Resort)
- After dinner tea or coffee each night (At Resort)
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- Return Ferry Crossings ■ Excursions as Detailed
- 2hr Guided Walking of Parigueux
- 2hr Guided tour of the Cellars & Wine Tasting at Chateaux Monbazillac ■ Porterage at Resort



Monet's Garden & Paris

12 - 15 AUGUST £259

4 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:

- All Travel By Executive Coach
- Return Ferry Crossings
- Guided Tour of Paris
- Entry to Monet Garden
- Excursions as Detailed
- 3 Nights Bed & Hot and Cold Buffet Breakfast



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14 - 16/17 AUGUST 4 Adults £265pp 3 Adults £289pp 2 Adults £335pp 1 Adult £479pp Children 3 - 11 years when sharing with minimum 1 adult £180

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- English speaking guide during excursions
- All entrance fees mentioned
- Services of a Tour Manager throughout

Single Supplement: £230

Upper Deck supplement: £90

MS Lafayette ****

This ship has 88 cabins and carries 176 passengers. Facilities include lounge bar with dance floor, bar, dining room, sundeck with deckchairs, lift and library. Cabins are en suite, air-conditioned and have hairdryer, satellite TV, picture window and safe. Wi-Fi is available on board.



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- English speaking guide during excursions
- All entrance fees mentioned
- Services of a Tour Manager throughout

Single supplement: £260

Upper Deck supplement: £100

MS Camargue ***

A two deck ship with 54 cabins and carries 104 passengers. Facilities include lounge bar with dance floor, bar, dining room, sundeck with deckchairs and a gift shop. Cabins are en suite, air-conditioned and have hairdryer, satellite TV and safe. Wi-Fi is available on board.



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On this holiday we visit Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia with time in the historic capitals of each of them. We also have excursions to interesting locations in and around each city.

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Door to Door Service
- Return flights
- Airport transfers
- Porterage
- 2 nights dinner, bed & breakfast at the Hotel Amberton, Vilnius
- 4 nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the Radisson Blu Riga
- 3 nights' dinner, bed & breakfast at the Radisson Blu Olympia, Tallinn
- Coach tours as mentioned in the itinerary
- English speaking guide during excursions
- All entrance fees mentioned during excursions
- Services of a Tour Manager throughout

Single room supplement: £255

On this holiday we visit Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia with time in the historic capitals of each of them. We also have excursions to interesting locations in and around each city.



Flight Holidays - Worldwide

A Taste of Northern California, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite National Park and Napa Valley Wine Train

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- 2 nights' accommodation at the Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza, Sacramento
- 2 nights' accommodation at the Flamingo Conference Resort & Spa, Santa Rosa
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- All entrance fees mentioned during excursions
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